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Assistance in mine action

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report is submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 58/127 of 19 December 2003 and focuses on progress achieved from mid-August 2003 to mid-August 2004 in implementing the 6 strategic goals and 48 objectives of the revised United Nations mine action strategy for 2001-2005 (A/58/260 and Add.1).

Progress has been made in the following areas:

(a) Improving the assessment of situations in mine affected countries. Assessment missions were carried out in Liberia, Malawi, Senegal and Uganda;

(b) Improving capacity to respond to emergencies. The United Nations rapid response plan was tested in Iraq and reviewed through a formal evaluation. A revision is in progress;

(c) Continuing efforts to build national mine action capacity. New capacity-building programmes were established in Afghanistan, Colombia, Iraq, Jordan and the Sudan. National programmes have benefited from a range of training opportunities and have strengthened field-level planning and coordination;

(d) Strengthening quality management. International mine action standards for mine risk education were approved and disseminated;

(e) Mobilizing resources. Increased resources were made available and initiatives were taken to encourage participation in mine action by international financial institutions;

(f) Improving coordination and implementation of advocacy. A United Nations mine action advocacy strategy was approved.

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The present report includes recommendations related to implementation of the United Nations mine action strategy for 2001-2005, activation of the rapid response plan, strengthening of national capacity, encouragement of international financial institutions to support mine action and encouragement of high-level participation in the Nairobi Summit on a Mine Free World.

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I. Introduction

1. In its resolution 58/127 of 19 December 2003, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit to it at its fifty-ninth session a report on progress achieved on all relevant issues outlined in his previous reports to the Assembly on assistance in mine clearance and mine action and in the resolution itself, including progress made by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and international and regional organizations and national programmes and on the operation of the Voluntary Trust Fund for Assistance in Mine Action and other mine action programmes, as well as a report on the implementation of the revised United Nations mine action strategy for 2001-2005.

2. In the same resolution, the General Assembly also requested the Secretary-General to report on the first implementation of the United Nations emergency response plan. The United Nations mine action advocacy strategy, which has been issued as an addendum to the present report (A/59/284/Add.1), was endorsed in November 2003 by the Inter-Agency Coordination Group on Mine Action[1] and fulfils objective 6.7 of the United Nations mine action strategy for 2001-2005 (see A/58/260/Add.1).

II. Progress achieved in the implementation of the revised United Nations mine action strategy for 2001-2005

3. This section describes progress achieved from mid-August 2003 to mid-August 2004 in the implementation of the strategic goals contained in the revised United Nations mine action strategy for 2001-2005 (A/58/260/Add.1) .

Goal 1

Information is produced and made available to all to understand and address mine action problems.

4. Assessment missions provide a basic understanding of the problems posed by landmines and explosive remnants of war[2] in a country or region and inform the development of subsequent interventions. In August 2003, the Mine Action Service, of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) undertook a mission to Malawi and reported that landmines affected the 1,000-kilometre border with Mozambique. In September 2003, before the deployment of the United Nations Mission in Liberia, the Mine Action Service identified no serious threat from landmines stemming from the recent conflict. Unexploded ordnance, however, posed a limited threat. In March 2004, the Mine Action Service and UNDP carried out missions to Senegal and Uganda. In Senegal, the mission confirmed that a substantial area between the Casamance River and the border with Guinea-Bissau was contaminated with landmines, which was hindering development. In Uganda, the mission identified contamination by landmines or unexploded ordnance in the Luwero district north of Kampala, the western Rwenzori Mountains and the country's northern districts.

5. Information is also regularly gathered and recorded by United Nations mine action programmes by means of the Information Management System for Mine Action software (IMSMA). The system, developed by the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining, has been continuously upgraded since its initial

release in 1999. IMSMA is now operational in 36 countries. In the last quarter of 2003 alone, the Centre carried out IMSMA needs assessments or provided technical support or training in 13 countries or territories.

6. The Mine Action Service continued work on the development of the Electronic Mine Information Network (e-Mine), which may be reached through the Internet at www.mineaction.org. The amount and range of content available grew significantly. Among the estimated 800 new documents uploaded were texts of national mine action legislation, United Nations reports and resolutions, international agreements relating to landmines and reports from national mine action programmes. There are about 1,400 separate user sessions daily.

Goal 2

Mine action is effectively coordinated and implemented in United Nations-managed programmes and planning processes

7. The United Nations mine action rapid response plan was developed in 2002 as a mechanism to enable coordinated and rapid deployment of mine action assets to support the delivery of humanitarian relief or peacekeeping operations. The Inter-Agency Coordination Group for Mine Action activated the plan in January 2003 in preparation for a mine action response in Iraq. United Nations officials were deployed to Iraq in April 2003 and established a mine action coordination team in Baghdad and an area mine action coordination team in Basrah to oversee, prioritize and assign tasks. Following the adoption by the Security Council of its resolution 1483 (2003), the two teams also began advising the National Mine Action Authority of Iraq. Activities implemented in the context of the rapid response plan included an emergency survey, mine risk education and mine and unexploded ordnance clearance operations. A total of 2,499 communities were surveyed and 739 dangerous areas were identified. The Mine Action Service contracted the services of a mine and unexploded ordnance clearance company in southern Iraq through the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS). Since the start of those operations, more than 500,000 items of unexploded or abandoned ordnance have been destroyed. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) funded non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to take the lead for mine risk education: the Mines Advisory Group in the south and Handicap International around Baghdad.

8. The attack on the United Nations headquarters in Baghdad in August 2003 forced the Organization to evacuate its international staff and to curtail some activities. At a meeting in Amman in October 2003 among representatives of the National Mine Action Authority, United Nations agencies and other stakeholders, it was agreed to conclude the emergency response phase of the operation and to transfer lead responsibility for United Nations mine action assistance in Iraq from the Mine Action Service to UNDP and to assist the National Mine Action Authority in establishing a sustainable national mine action framework. The Mine Action Service has continued to fund the mine clearance contractor operating in southern Iraq, which is working under the coordination of the Authority.

9. In late 2003, the Mine Action Service commissioned an external evaluation of the rapid response plan and its implementation in Iraq. The report, which was discussed at a workshop in Stockholm in May 2004, found that the implementation structure of the plan was sound and made a number of recommendations, particularly regarding the need for better information-sharing, to enhance its future use. The

review identified a need for a detailed planning framework that included threat monitoring, contingency planning and operational planning and for the active involvement of major stakeholders in the planning and implementation of an emergency response. An enhancement of the plan's coordination mechanism is under consideration, and discussions are under way among United Nations mine action partners and NGOs about which operational components (e.g., explosive ordnance disposal) are essential in an emergency response. The review also suggested a need for greater emphasis on mine victim surveillance to assist with prioritization of tasks. The recommendations from the evaluation are guiding the revision of the plan, which is due to be completed by December 2004.

10. The Mine Action Service manages the Mine Action Centre for Afghanistan, which is responsible for planning, coordinating and overseeing the mine action programme, on behalf of the Government of Afghanistan. In 2003, approximately 78 square kilometres of affected area were cleared, with over 22 square kilometres of minefield and 56 square kilometres of former battlefield returned to communities. In addition, more than 160 square kilometres of affected land were surveyed, and mine risk education reached almost 800,000 people. Also in 2003, the Mine Action Centre sought to integrate mine action into the Government's development and reconstruction efforts, with funding from sources such as the Asian Development Bank, the European Commission, Japan, the United States Agency for International Development and the World Bank. Key achievements were the clearing of mines from the Kabul-Kandahar road, which reopened in December, and the start of clearance operations along the Kandahar-Herat road. During the reporting period, Afghanistan received $32 million for road clearance and reconstruction projects through the UNDP Thematic Trust Fund for Crisis Prevention and Recovery. It also received more than $30 million through the Voluntary Trust Fund for Assistance in Mine Action to support the activities of the 15 national and international implementing NGOs working in the country. In 2003, the Government established a Mine Action Consultative Group, which includes representatives of the Government, the United Nations, donors and national and international organizations. The group aids in planning, policy development and resource mobilization. The Mine Action Service and UNDP are working with the Government to develop a plan under which it will take over full responsibility for the programme. In Afghanistan, as in other countries where the Mine Action Service operates, the programme is implemented with the support of UNOPS.

11. The Mine Action Service participated in a Department of Peacekeeping Operations assessment mission to Burundi in February 2004 and recommended that a mine action programme be developed as part of the United Nations Operation in Burundi. In his report to the Security Council in March 2004 (S/2004/210), the Secretary-General stated that mine and unexploded ordnance contamination would initially pose only a limited threat to the deployment of the proposed mission, but noted that as peacekeeping personnel extended their presence throughout the country, the risk of entering hazardous areas might increase. Consequently, the Security Council, it its resolution 1545 (2004), approved the inclusion of a mine action coordination centre within the mission. The Mine Action Service established the mine action programme in Burundi in June 2004 and immediately began to address the operational needs of the peacekeeping mission and the need for mine action in support of humanitarian relief.

12. The Mine Action Coordination Centre in Kinshasa continued to provide expertise to the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of

the Congo, the humanitarian community and national authorities and agencies. The Centre coordinated emergency surveys to be used in the development of a national mine action plan, the emergency clearance of mines and unexploded ordnance and the destruction of stockpiles, and assisted UNICEF and other organizations in a risk prevention campaign. The Centre also undertook advocacy initiatives and assisted national authorities with mine-related legislation. Technical surveys were completed and mines and unexploded ordnance were cleared from the Bunia, Kindu and Manono airfields. Surveys revealed information that reduced the length of road to be cleared from 64.4 kilometres to 16 kilometres in the Bunia-Komanda sector, facilitating the deployment of the Mission in the Ituri District.

13. The Mine Action Coordination Centre and the Peacekeeping Force Mine Action Centre in the Temporary Security Zone between Ethiopia and Eritrea were combined in 2003 and became responsible for prioritizing and assigning tasks on behalf of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea. The new Centre has coordination and operational functions in mine risk education, explosive ordnance disposal, medical services, clearance operations, marking and mapping and emergency response. Through the deployment of the peacekeeping force's demining assets, more than 12 million square metres of land were cleared. This is the first time that peacekeeping force and humanitarian mine action assets have been fully integrated under a single coordination mechanism. The Centre also provided support to the UNDP mine action capacity-building programme, which has assumed responsibility for United Nations-managed mine action capacity-building in the country. UNDP technical staff support the reconstituted Eritrean Demining Authority and Eritrean Demining Operations office. With assistance from UNDP, programmatic linkages have been made among the Eritrean landmine impact survey, the Information Management System for Mine Action and the national survey for people with disabilities.

14. Recent developments in the National Demining Office of Lebanon include the completion of a national strategic plan and a landmine impact survey. In 2002, the Mine Action Service collaborated with the Government of the United Arab Emirates and the National Demining Office to establish Operation Emirates Solidarity, a unique partnership to clear landmines in southern Lebanon and encourage the return of displaced communities. The Mine Action Coordination Centre in southern Lebanon provides accreditation, task allocation, quality management oversight and community liaison support to contracted companies, as well as training to staff of the National Demining Office. The third phase of the operation was completed on 29 May 2004. A total of 58,114 landmines and 4,376 items of unexploded ordnance were destroyed, and 4.9 square kilometres of land were released back to local communities. The Centre continued to integrate its activities into the plans and operations of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon. UNDP is supporting capacity-building in the National Demining Office.

15. The Mine Action Service continued to implement the emergency mine action programme in the Sudan, established under a tripartite memorandum of understanding signed by the United Nations, the Government of the Sudan and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement. The National Mine Action Office and two regional offices, in Kadugli and Rumbek, continued to ensure that mine action was coordinated, planned and carried out in accordance with the principles of impartiality and neutrality and with the prior agreement of the Government of the Sudan and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement. Activities have been successfully implemented in the Nuba Mountains, with teams from both sides undergoing joint training and deployment. The

Mine Action Service, through UNOPS, has contracted NGO survey teams and a commercial organization to clear major supply routes in the south, which are critical for the delivery of humanitarian aid, the return of refugees and internally displaced persons and the future deployment of a peace support operation. The World Food Programme (WFP) also deployed survey teams to assist with this and other emergency clearance activities in the south. Other activities included training of Sudanese Red Crescent Society volunteers to carry out surveys of victims; Danish Church Aid volunteers to carry out a needs-assessment survey; and NGO and Sudanese Government personnel and volunteers in mine risk education. UNICEF recruited mine risk education coordinators to work in the National Mine Action Office in Khartoum and southern Sudan. UNDP deployed a senior technical adviser to support the programme with institutional and capacity development and to assist the national authority with long-term planning, management and execution of mine action.

16. The Mine Action Service is responsible for the overall coordination of United Nations mine action, which is undertaken by 13 departments, programmes, funds and agencies. The Service convened monthly meetings of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group on Mine Action at the working level to discuss emerging policy and operational issues, including United Nations input for the Nairobi Summit on a Mine Free World, scheduled to begin in November 2004, mine action in Burundi and the Sudan and the rapid response plan. The group also met twice at the principals' level and endorsed the revised United Nations mine action strategy for 2001-2005 as well as the mine action advocacy strategy. In mid-2004, United Nations mine action partners initiated a review of the 1998 United Nations mine action policy, to reflect recent developments in the field of mine action.

17. The Steering Committee on Mine Action brings together members of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group on Mine Action and representatives of the International Campaign to Ban Landmines, the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining, ICRC and other NGOs to review operational activities and policy issues. In 2003 and 2004, the committee addressed mine action priorities in the Sudan, the United Nations mine action advocacy strategy and progress achieved towards creating a convention on the rights of persons with disabilities. In March 2004, representatives of the Mine Action Service, UNDP and UNICEF met with representatives of six international NGOs in Oslo to examine ways of strengthening collaboration between the United Nations and NGOs in the field. Examples of good practice to improve operations at the headquarters and field levels were identified and included in the conclusions of the meeting.

18. As the number of actors involved in mine action grows, additional attention is focused on the coordination and integration of mine action into humanitarian, peacekeeping and development planning and operations.

19. United Nations mine action partners actively promoted the integration of mine action requirements into country-specific peacekeeping and humanitarian response plans. As described above, mine action operations were integrated into peacekeeping plans in Burundi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia and Eritrea and southern Lebanon.

20. As the lead agency for mine risk education, UNICEF has included initiatives in its humanitarian response plans in 35 countries. It has deployed technical consultants, or "flying teams", to many of those locations to identify at-risk groups and to develop and implement mine accident prevention strategies for emergency

situations. UNICEF support helped to build mine risk education capacity in the eastern part of Chad in April and May 2004, serving 100,000 people, including Sudanese refugees.

21. Fundamental to the UNICEF core commitments to children in emergencies, adopted in January 2004, is the commitment to conduct a rapid situation assessment and analysis of violations of children's rights and child-protection needs, including the risk of mines and explosive remnants of war, which will inform programmatic responses.

22. In August 2003, as part of the preparation for the transitional consolidated appeal for Angola, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and UNDP supported the Government in developing transition plans that incorporated mine action into the provincial plans and budgets for the rehabilitation of roads, bridge repairs, delivery of humanitarian assistance and delivery of social services in returnee communities. The Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs co-chaired a Mine Action Working Group, attended by key United Nations agencies, to coordinate mine action efforts and bolstered mechanical demining capacity through an emergency response fund. With support from UNDP, the lead United Nations mine action agency in the country, Angolan authorities established the National Inter-Sectoral Commission for Demining and Humanitarian Assistance and are strengthening the National Demining Institute and provincial-level coordination mechanisms.

23. The Mine Action Service and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) organized a workshop in May 2004 that resulted in a series of recommendations aimed at enhancing cooperation, clarifying roles and designing more predictable and structured collaboration. Particular emphasis will be given to linking the early warning, contingency planning, preparedness and response frameworks of the Mine Action Service and UNHCR.

24. The timely delivery of mine risk education and the surveying and marking of mined areas are critical to the safe return of refugees and displaced populations. Whenever possible, UNHCR works on mine-related issues with United Nations agencies and country teams, as well as with national authorities, civil society and refugees and internally displaced persons. UNHCR, in consultation with UNICEF and the Mine Action Service, planned mine risk education for Sudanese refugees in Chad, Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda. UNHCR and the Service may also undertake joint assessment missions to Burundi and the United Republic of Tanzania to determine mine action requirements for the repatriation of refugees to Burundi. UNICEF will provide input on mine risk education. UNHCR also continues to be involved in mine action in Sri Lanka, where it chairs the Internally Displaced Persons Working Group.

25. The policy of WFP on mine action was enacted in April 2004. Its operational framework on mine action provided guidance for incorporating mine action into the organization's planning at the regional and country levels. Globally, the Programme's involvement in mine action includes technical advice, awareness training, assessment of mined areas, opening of supply routes and storage facilities, clearance, resource mobilization, stockpile destruction and advocacy.

26. Mine action programme managers are routinely included as members of the United Nations country and security management teams. To facilitate this, the Mine

Action Service enters into an exchange of letters with the Special Representative of the Secretary-General or the resident/humanitarian coordinator who is assigned responsibility for overseeing mine action in a country. The formalization of this relationship has enhanced programme managers' access to critical decision-making processes. In addition, resident coordinators or representatives coordinate activities with high-level government officials in UNDP-supported programmes.

27. Mine action can be a confidence-building tool in negotiating peace. Clearance activities eliminate the debris of war and mine risk education reduces risk to civilians and is a tangible indication of the restoration of trust among warring parties. It is often one of the first issues upon which disputing parties can agree and one of the first service areas to reach vulnerable groups. In the Sudan, mine action was among the first areas of agreement between the Government and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, mine action was the first activity to be administered by a "joint State commission", which is now operating as a single national centre. In Afghanistan, mine action teams consisting of members of formerly opposing parties to the conflict were among the first groups to work "a cross lines". Mine action was explicitly included in peace negotiations that preceded the establishment of the United Nations Operation in Burundi.

28. Specific criteria and benchmarks for the transition of responsibility from the United Nations to national authorities are being developed by members of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group in Mine Action. Lessons learned from previous transitions are being studied and will contribute to guidelines that may be tailored to each country's unique circumstances. This process will be completed in late 2004. The Mine Action Service and UNDP are laying the groundwork for transition to national authorities in Afghanistan and the Sudan.

29. The Mine Action Service continued to manage the landmine and unexploded ordnance safety project, which targets institutions working in hazardous settings to minimize mine-related accidents. In 2003, the Service convened eight train-the-trainer workshops for 150 participants working in 60 different organizations from 12 countries/territories, exceeding the original target of 10 countries. The workshops were conducted by Handicap International France.

30. Through its presence in some 80 countries, ICRC focuses its mine action efforts on victim assistance, advocacy and programmes, including mine risk education and data gathering. There are programmes in 27 countries. ICRC engages in humanitarian diplomacy with national and regional authorities to encourage States to adhere to and implement the Anti-personnel Mine Ban Treaty. It also assists States in the development of national implementing legislation and raises awareness about mine ban norms in disseminating humanitarian law to armed forces and armed groups.

Goal 3

National and local authorities effectively plan, coordinate and implement mine action programmes

31. The primary responsibility for managing mine action programmes lies with national and local authorities. UNDP and UNICEF provide support to national authorities, when requested, to establish institutional structures to address the mine threat over the long term with maximum efficiency.

32. UNDP continued to coordinate its mine action response in post-conflict environments through the mine action team of its Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery. UNDP provides technical and operational support to 24 national programmes. In post-conflict environments, long-term mine action planning and national capacity-building must begin as early as possible. In countries with peacekeeping operations, such as Afghanistan, Eritrea and Lebanon, UNDP is developing national capacity to ensure transfer to national management. Other highlights of UNDP assistance in the reporting period are summarized below. In Azerbaijan, a landmine impact survey was completed and UNDP technical support is now minimal, provided primarily in strategic areas. In Albania, UNDP is helping the Government to realize its goal of declaring the country free from the impact of mines by the end of 2005 and in Bosnia and Herzegovina, a new national structure is effectively managing mine action. UNDP continues to provide advisory services focused on long-term strategic issues. In Cambodia, UNDP is assisting national authorities with an institutional framework for integrating demining into socio-economic development. In Chad, UNDP supports government efforts to demine a contaminated area in Wadi Doun, allowing hundreds of people to return home. UNDP supported government efforts to develop a mine action strategy in the Islamic Republic of Iran and helped to establish a mine action capacity-building programme in Jordan, to develop a 10-year strategic plan for mine clearance, mine risk education and victim assistance in the Lao People's Democratic Republic and to establish national mine action standards in Sri Lanka. In Tajikistan, UNDP implemented a quick, efficient response to the needs of the Government to address a relatively limited mine problem.

33. Landmine impact surveys have been completed in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Chad, Lebanon, Mozambique, portions of Somalia, Thailand and Yemen. Surveys are set to conclude in Eritrea and Ethiopia, and are under way or set to begin in Afghanistan, Angola, additional portions of Somalia, the Sudan and Viet Nam. The Mine Action Service provides, through UNOPS, quality-assurance monitors, and UNDP helps national authorities to develop plans based on information from the surveys. The Mine Action Service also supported an external evaluation of the global landmine survey initiative, the results of which were delivered in early 2004. The recommendations from the evaluation are being implemented. The Governments of Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Eritrea, Ethiopia and Somalia, with assistance from UNDP, commissioned landmine impact surveys through the Survey Action Centre.

34. UNDP worked with United Nations partners and national authorities to establish strategic mine action plans covering coordination and implementation of mine clearance and marking, mine risk education, survivor assistance, policy-making, resource mobilization and advocacy. These strategic plans also define the level of United Nations support to be provided throughout each phase of a programme, describe the division of labour and establish frameworks for the devolution of responsibility to Governments at the earliest possible stage. Strategic plans were finalized in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Mozambique and Yemen, and are being developed in Afghanistan, Iraq and the Sudan.

35. UNDP, with support from the Mine Action Service and UNICEF, is working to mainstream mine action into the development plans of mine-affected developing nations. UNDP is also promoting partnerships among the mine action and development communities. Organizations involved in mine action at the local level

are being encouraged to contribute to this objective by planning and implementing mine action in coordination with development projects and programmes whenever possible.

36. UNDP and the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining initiated regional training workshops in Amman and Sarajevo for mine action managers from 12 countries on incorporating socio-economic data into mine action analysis and planning.

37. UNDP offered management and technical training to more than 400 senior and mid-level national managers from more than 20 countries in strategic planning, logistics, change management, human resources management and leadership, as well as procurement, mine action standards and technology and techniques.

38. Through its mine action exchange programme, UNDP enabled managers and staff of mine action programmes to undertake short assignments with programmes in other countries or with international organizations. During the reporting period, eight mine-affected countries participated, and exchanges focused on how to develop effective national institutions and technical capacity, particularly in the areas of mechanical demining and mine detection dogs.

39. UNICEF coordinated and implemented its mine action strategy and provided policy advice and programme guidance through its landmines and small arms team within the Office of Emergency Programmes.

40. UNICEF continued to implement and support mine risk education and mine accident prevention programmes and to provide advocacy and survivor assistance in 35 countries and territories. UNICEF assigned mine risk education officers to work in mine action centres in, for example, Afghanistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Sudan. UNICEF is the only United Nations mine action entity working in Georgia, Guatemala, Mauritania, Nicaragua, the occupied Palestinian territories, Panama, the Russian Federation (Chechnya), the Syrian Arab Republic (the Golan Heights) and Viet Nam.

41. UNICEF, in collaboration with the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), conducted training in field epidemiology for mine action to enable mine action programme specialists to better undertake surveys and data analysis for mine action planning, monitoring and evaluation. Thirty-two participants — representing NGOs, Governments, the United Nations and international organizations — took part. The training will be conducted annually. UNICEF, with CDC, the World Health Organization, Physicians for Human Rights and International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, co-hosted an international conference on the role of public health in dealing with war-related injuries.

42. UNICEF began assisting Afghanistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Colombia, Iraq and Sri Lanka to create national mine risk education standards. It also continued to support the development of a national mine risk education strategy in Colombia. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, UNICEF arranged training for national mine risk education managers in techniques to promote mine risk reduction at the community level and to implement programmes that were in line with national and international standards. UNICEF also trained schoolteachers in mine risk education and taught them how to integrate mine risk education into curricula.

43. In Colombia, UNICEF trained national staff in data collection and local facilitators in mine risk reduction teaching methodologies. In Ethiopia, UNICEF taught government staff to train providers of mine risk educational services and trained national staff to better plan, manage, monitor and evaluate their projects. UNICEF collaborated with UNDP in training local officials in victim surveillance methodologies and recording victim data with the Information Management System for Mine Action. In eight countries, UNICEF trained primary school teachers how to educate students about mines and unexploded ordnance.

44. UNICEF organized a mine risk education working group to raise public awareness about the threat of landmines and improvised explosive devices in Nepal, contributed to the development of a national risk reduction strategy in Burundi by undertaking a national survey of casualties and, together with the national demining office in Chad, elaborated strategies for undertaking mine risk education for refugees on the border with the Sudan.

45. In 2003, the Mine Action Service began advising mine action centres on the implementation of United Nations policy on victim assistance. In Eritrea, the Mine Action Service reviewed victim data and proposed a system for sharing the information with the Eritrean Demining Authority and the office of Eritrean Demining Operations to better equip them in setting priorities for clearance and marking. In the Sudan, the Service provided advice on building capacity for addressing victim assistance issues, resulting in a new victim assistance work plan for 2003-2004 and the start of the collection of data on victims.

Goal 4
Mine action operations are implemented to the highest attainable standard

46. Each international mine action standard is reviewed at least once every three years. During the reporting period, the Mine Action Service and the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining drafted new standards on issuing contracts, with support from UNOPS, and on mechanical mine clearance. Both organizations were involved in the production of a European Committee for Standardization workshop agreement on the testing of metal detectors. A similar workshop agreement on the testing of mechanical devices went into effect in April 2004. A review of the international standards on the use of mine detection dogs is in progress.

47. The Mine Action Service chaired the International Mine Action Standards Review Board, whose members included representatives of mine affected States, donors, NGOs, commercial operators, United Nations organizations and individual experts. The Board is responsible for recommending new or updated standards. In April 2004, the Inter-Agency Coordination Group in Mine Action approved new standards for mine risk education and disseminated them to all programmes. UNICEF is collaborating with the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining to develop guidelines for the implementation of those standards. At the same time, UNDP is helping its programme countries to develop national standards that are compatible with the international standards.

48. The United Nations arranges evaluations of its operations to ensure that programmes are efficient and effective. The evaluation of the deployment in Iraq under the rapid response plan is reported in paragraph 9 above. The external evaluation of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea began in August

2004. Systematic evaluation methodologies have been developed by UNICEF through the development of international standards for monitoring and evaluating mine risk education. During the reporting period, UNDP commissioned independent evaluations of its programmes in Angola, Azerbaijan and Bosnia and Herzegovina.

49. Mine action partners seek to keep abreast of developments in mine action technologies and techniques. In Afghanistan, for example, a contract was issued by UNOPS for a project that introduced the Mechem Explosive and Drug Detection System, which facilitated the speedy verification of the reconstruction of the Kabul-Kandahar road. In Eritrea, a contract issued by UNOPS on behalf of the Mine Action Service introduced the use of the towed metal detector array system, ensuring safe passage of the roads in the Temporary Security Zone. The technology coordinator of the Mine Action Service facilitated information exchanges among field operations, Governments and research and development establishments.

50. Information about best practices in mine action contributes to the quality of future interventions. In late 2003, the Mine Action Service and the Mine Action Information Centre at James Madison University (United States of America), called upon mine action practitioners to contribute lessons learned to an existing database. The two organizations received about 200 new lessons, which were reviewed by a team representing a cross-section of the mine action community for possible inclusion in the International Mine Action Standards or as technical notes. Meanwhile, the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining collected more information for its database of demining accidents.

51. The quality of mine action programmes also depends in part on the extent to which gender concerns are taken into account in planning and operations. On behalf of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group in Mine Action, the Mine Action Service contracted a gender consultant, who produced draft guidelines for integrating gender considerations into mine action. The guidelines will be finalized by the end of 2004.

52. UNICEF initiated a gender analysis of mine risk education projects and programmes. The findings led to the integration of gender perspectives into the international standards on mine risk education.

53. The Department for Disarmament Affairs continually promoted the links between gender and mine action issues. Its staff addressed conferences, workshops and panels, including a workshop in Berlin in January 2004 on gender perspectives on small arms, a panel discussion on gender perspectives on disarmament, demobilization and reintegration sponsored by the United Nations Development Fund for Women and a seminar in Vilnius on the Anti-personnel Mine Ban Treaty in Northern and Eastern Europe.

Goal 5

Adequate resources for mine action are mobilized and their use is effectively coordinated

54. Several funding modalities exist for United Nations mine action. The Voluntary Trust Fund for Assistance in Mine Action was established in 1994 and is used primarily to finance assessment missions, mine action programmes managed by the Mine Action Service, the bridging of funding gaps in ongoing programmes and the Service's coordination and advocacy work. Contributions to the Trust Fund totalled $56.8 million in 2003. The 10 largest donors to the Trust Fund were the

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Canada, Japan, Germany, the United States of America, Italy, Denmark, Australia, Finland and Sweden.

55. During the reporting period, UNDP raised more than $70 million for mine action, including more than $30 million through the Thematic Trust Fund for Crisis Prevention and Recovery. UNDP mine action programmes also received in kind contributions of equipment and services. In addition, UNDP advised national mine action authorities on establishing or strengthening relationships with donors.

56. The Adopt a Minefield campaign of the United Nations Association of the United States helped increase civil society's involvement in the campaign to rid the world of landmines. By the end of 2003, Adopt a Minefield had raised more than $10 million for mine action in six countries. Those funds were supplemented by contributions from the Better World Fund and the United States. Throughout the reporting period, UNDP continued to manage Adopt a Minefield activities, with UNOPS providing administrative support in the field.

57. The Mine Action Service, UNDP and UNICEF continued to provide support to the Mine Action Support Group, comprising representatives of 24 mine action donor countries. The Group meets monthly in New York. Germany chaired the Group through December 2003, and Switzerland has led the Group since January 2004. Meetings offer donors an opportunity to share information about trends and developments in mine action and to learn about the mine action policies and operations of United Nations mine action partners. The main themes discussed in 2004 are the integration of mine action into peace processes, the mainstreaming of mine action into development and humanitarian planning and programmes, funding needs and priorities in mine action and the evaluation of mine action programmes. In May 2004, eight members of the Group travelled to Angola to examine the status of mine action and to determine how donor funds can have the greatest impact on affected communities and national infrastructure.

58. The Mine Action Service, the Department for Disarmament Affairs, UNDP and UNICEF participated in meetings of the Resource Mobilization Contact Group in the margins of the intersessional meetings of the States parties to the Anti-personnel Mine Ban Treaty in Geneva, and in Bangkok during the fifth meeting of States parties. The Contact Group placed particular emphasis on encouraging international financial institutions to take part in funding mine action. In July 2004, the Mine Action Service, UNDP and UNICEF joined a delegation of States parties to the Anti-personnel Mine Ban Treaty that met with the World Bank in Washington, D.C. There was agreement with the World Bank that mine action could help advance the Millennium Development Goals and a commitment was made to explore opportunities for closer collaboration in mine affected countries. The World Bank will consider requests for financial support for mine action from affected States and is open to a greater operational role when it has a comparative advantage.

59. Countries that established effective donor coordination mechanisms included Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Lebanon, Mozambique, Tajikistan and Yemen. UNDP created regional advisory positions in Africa and Asia and plans to establish another for the Middle East. Regional advisers will mobilize resources, assist country offices to identify needs in the region, formulate plans and programmes, ensure that immediate mine action needs are met and that longer-term needs are addressed in the policies and programmes of the host country and provide

technical and managerial support to national authorities so that all work conforms to international standards.

60. As part of the consolidated appeals process, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs oversaw the development of common humanitarian action plans. Since 2003, the Office and United Nations mine action partners have been working together in Angola, Burundi, Chad, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Iraq, the Russian Federation (Chechnya and neighbouring republics), Somalia, the Sudan, Tajikistan and the occupied Palestinian territories to ensure that mine action projects listed in the consolidated appeals process are the same as those presented in the annual portfolio of mine action projects and are elaborated in collaboration with all humanitarian actors on the ground. Between the launch of the 2004 consolidated appeals process in November 2003 and the mid-year review in June 2004, $12,708,227 was raised for mine action projects in various consolidated appeals, out of total revised requirement of $40,256,182.

61. The mine action investments database was transferred from the Government of Canada in early 2004 and is now managed by the Mine Action Service; it can be accessed through e-Mine (see para. 6 above). The Service has encouraged all donors to use this resource and is making arrangements to facilitate the provision of data.

62. In December 2003, the United Nations published the portfolio of mine action projects for 2004, featuring more than 300 project proposals from a broad range of actors, including civil society, NGOs and United Nations agencies, departments and funds, as well as analyses of the landmine situation in 36 countries. The value of the projects in the portfolio totalled $280 million — up from the previous year's $200 million. The portfolio reflected an effort to strengthen coordination among national and international partners. The result is a comprehensive package of projects that donors may use to identify actions to support.

63. The Mine Action Service organized the seventh annual International Meeting of Mine Action Programme Directors and United Nations Advisers (Geneva, 15-18 March 2004). The event, organized in partnership with UNDP, UNICEF and UNOPS and hosted by the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining, drew 26 senior United Nations programme advisers, 15 national programme directors and 19 other high-ranking national staff from 29 programmes managed and supported by the United Nations. The meeting provided a forum for exchanging views and learning about new policies, trends in mine action, technologies and mine-clearance methods. Topics included the use of impact assessments for national planning, methods to measure the impact of mine action interventions and the relationship between mine action and peace-building.

Goal 6

Universal adherence to and compliance with all international instruments and/or commitments that address landmine and/or unexploded ordnance problems and/or that advance the rights of affected persons

64. United Nations mine action partners participated in the Anti-personnel Mine Ban Treaty's Fifth Meeting of States Parties (Bangkok, 15-19 September 2003), during which representatives of 118 countries and more than 200 NGOs reviewed progress and made plans for the Nairobi Summit on a Mine Free World, to be held from 29 November to 3 December 2004. Goals for the Nairobi Summit include a review of progress achieved in implementing the treaty and the adoption of an

action plan to fulfil the treaty's aims. The United Nations assisted a number of countries in the preparation of their national plans and developed a guide for countries to use in this process. The United Nations continues to promote universal participation in the treaty. The Mine Action Service organized a panel discussion in New York on 15 July 2004 to inform United Nations staff, diplomatic representatives and the media about the aims of the Nairobi Summit. In June 2004, the Administrator of UNDP sent a letter to resident representatives and coordinators highlighting the relevance of mine action from a humanitarian and development perspective. The letter urged host countries to participate in the Nairobi Summit at the highest possible level and to champion the cause of mine action in the lead-up to the event.

65. The Department for Disarmament Affairs, through its Under-Secretary-General and other senior officials, continued to promote and support adherence to, implementation of and full compliance with international instruments and commitments on landmines and related issues.

66. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights helped to ensure that the United Nations charter bodies, notably the Commission on Human Rights, were engaged in advocating for mine action and for compliance with relevant international instruments. At its sixtieth session (15 March-23 April 2004), the Commission adopted a resolution on the rights of the child (resolution 2004/48) in which it called upon all States and United Nations bodies to continue to support national and international mine action efforts, including through financial contributions, the provision of assistance to victims and social and economic reintegration, mine awareness programmes, mine clearance and child-centred rehabilitation.

67. The Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects regulates the use of weapons such as landmines, booby traps and similar devices in conflict. Protocol II on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices and the recently adopted Protocol V on Explosive Remnants of War are relevant to mine action. In 2003, United Nations mine action partners intensified their involvement in discussions related to the drafting of Protocol V, which addresses all parties to conflict and assigns responsibilities for the clearance, removal or destruction of explosive remnants of war. It includes requirements for recording, retaining and transmitting information and precautions for the protection of civilians and humanitarian missions from the effects of explosive remnants of war.

68. United Nations agencies proposed new language for the draft protocol. Many of the proposed changes, communicated in a note dated 17 November 2003 from the Inter-Agency Coordination Group on Mine Action, were incorporated into the final text. The Group emphasized that a strong protocol would enable agencies to begin their work earlier, armed with crucial information, and thus prevent more injuries to innocent civilians and improve protection for United Nations and other humanitarian personnel.

69. When it enters into force, Protocol V will form an important framework for post-conflict mine action. It assigns a role to the United Nations in facilitating assistance to countries for the marking, clearance, removal or destruction of explosive remnants of war and for providing for the care, rehabilitation and social and economic reintegration of victims.

70. On 27 November 2003, the Inter-Agency Standing Committee presented a statement to the meeting of States parties to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons in which it called for a freeze on the use of cluster munitions and advocated that parties to conflict be held accountable for the use, clean-up and long-term effects of the weapons they employ.

71. The Group of Governmental Experts on the Convention was also mandated to consider proposals for addressing mines other than anti-personnel mines. In March and November 2003 respectively, the Mine Action Service presented case studies on Afghanistan and Angola to illustrate the impact of anti-vehicle mines on humanitarian and development assistance and on clearance operations.

72. In March 2004, the Mine Action Service presented to the Group of Governmental Experts an overview of current and future technology for the detection and clearance of anti-vehicle mines in which it concluded that research and development could not yet fulfil all the requirements of the demining community and recommended collective action. The Service presented a statement expressing the common position of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group on Mine Action, urging the Group of Governmental Experts to agree during 2004 to negotiate a mandate on anti-vehicle mines that might result in an international instrument containing at least the following elements: all anti-vehicle mines should contain a self-destruct mechanism, or at least mechanisms for self-neutralization or self-deactivation, so that they would have a limited lifespan; they should be detectable by commonly available mine-detection equipment; and they should not be fitted with anti-handling devices or sensitive fuses that could be activated by the presence, proximity or contact of a person.

73. At its sixtieth session, the Commission on Human Rights expressed concern at the extent of disabilities caused by the indiscriminate use of anti-personnel mines and other weapons (resolution 2004/52). It strongly condemned mine-laying and other hostile acts carried out against United Nations and associated personnel, as well as personnel of international humanitarian organizations (resolution 2004/77).

74. The Representative of the Secretary-General for Internally Displaced Persons addressed the issue of mines during his missions and in his reporting. In February 2004 he reported that during an August 2003 meeting in Khartoum, the Government of the Sudan recognized the vulnerability of internally displaced persons, particularly children, to the effects of armed conflicts, including unexploded ordnance and landmines (E/CN.4/2004/77/Add.4).

75. The High Commissioner for Human Rights raised the issue of unexploded ordnance and landmines in his report dated 7 May 2004 to the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the Darfur region of the Sudan (E/CN.4/2005/3).

76. Several United Nations treaty bodies, particularly the Committee on the Rights of the Child and the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, took note of the impact of mines on children and minority populations. The Committee on the Rights of the Child urged the Government of Eritrea to seek international support for mine clearance and survivor reintegration (CRC/C/41/Add.12) and recommended that the Government of Sri Lanka develop psychosocial support for child mine survivors (CRC/C/70/Add.17).

77. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights joined United Nations mine action agencies in participating in meetings of the Ad Hoc Committee on a Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities, as well as meetings of the Working Group established by the ad hoc committee to prepare the initial draft text of the convention. Landmine Survivors Network and Rehabilitation International collaborated with the Mine Action Service to organize a panel on the right to rehabilitation during the third meeting of the ad hoc committee, in May 2004.

78. United Nations mine action staff in Colombia, Somalia, Sri Lanka, the Sudan and elsewhere worked closely with Geneva Call in support of efforts to elicit commitments from non-State actors to refrain from the use of landmines. United Nations colleagues also assisted in the monitoring of compliance with such commitments.

79. In 2003, the Mine Action Service led a consultative process among members of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group on Mine Action resulting in the endorsement in April 2004 of the United Nations advocacy strategy. The strategy (A/59/284/Add.1) aims to inform or influence States, the United Nations system, mine action donors, the general public, non-State actors, NGOs and national and regional mine action organizations. A subgroup of the Coordination Group has developed an implementation plan that draws on the comparative strengths of all relevant United Nations system partners.

III. Conclusions and recommendations

80. **The following conclusions may be drawn from the developments reported above:**

(a) **The revised United Nations mine action strategy for 2001-2005 provides valuable direction and guidance for United Nations entities involved in its implementation and fosters coordination and accountability across the mine action community. The strategy review process revealed considerable consensus among United Nations partners on fundamental principles, including commitments to integrate a development perspective into mine action planning, to emphasize the role of mine affected communities when determining mine action priorities and to address gender concerns in the design, implementation and evaluation of mine action programmes;**

(b) **United Nations mine action agency efforts to raise the visibility of mine-related issues throughout the United Nations has resulted in the increasingly systematic integration of mine action into planning and operations in the areas of peacekeeping, humanitarian affairs and development at the national and international levels. When the United Nations mine action policy is revised in late 2004, it will further enhance coordination and ensure more timely and effective United Nations mine action;**

(c) **United Nations efforts have strengthened the capacities of mine affected States to effectively manage all aspects of mine action policy planning, coordination and operations, and have encouraged strengthened cooperation among mine affected States;**

(d) **The Nairobi Summit on a Mine Free World can help to maintain and build momentum in the mine ban movement, generate public interest and pressure to resolve the problem and produce realistic goals with clear priorities and reasonable time frames for eliminating the threat from high-impact areas over the next five years. The submission of five-year national plans by mine affected States will quantify the problem and define the required response;**

(e) **Although donors continue to fund mine action primarily through humanitarian or emergency budget lines, there is increasing recognition of the importance of supporting mine action from development and reconstruction budgets as well. Several bilateral and multilateral donors have already provided funding from development budgets for mine action components of reconstruction programmes;**

(f) **The rapid response plan facilitates the coordinated and rapid deployment of mine action assets to support the delivery of humanitarian relief or peacekeeping operations. The preliminary findings of the evaluation of the plan highlighted the importance of fully integrating mine action concerns into the planning processes for United Nations missions and deployments;**

(g) **The collaborative approach undertaken in the preparation of the portfolio of mine action projects for 2004 has paved the way for a more comprehensive document in 2005.**

81. **The following recommendations are derived from the foregoing conclusions:**

(a) **Member States should continue to support the implementation of the United Nations mine action strategy for 2001-2005. Member States should consider requesting the United Nations to present a new strategy for the period 2006-2010;**

(b) **The rapid response plan should be further integrated into planning processes for United Nations humanitarian and peacekeeping operations and should be activated in emergency situations when political developments allow it and when no other national capacity exists to address the landmine problem;**

(c) **Member States should continue to support the strengthening of national capacities to address the problem posed by landmines and explosive remnants of war. Mine affected Member States should include mine action in poverty reduction strategy papers and national development plans;**

(d) **International financial institutions should assist mine affected developing States to meet targets and treaty obligations and to advance the Millennium Development Goals;**

(e) **Donor countries contributing funds to mine action should refer to the portfolio of mine action projects. All mine action donors should provide data to the donor investments database;**

(f) **Member States should be represented at the Nairobi Summit on a Mine Free World at the highest possible level. Mine-affected States should submit comprehensive national plans for consideration at the Summit.**

Notes

[1] The members of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group on Mine Action are representatives of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations. the Department for Disarmament Affairs, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, the Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women, the United Nations Development Programme. the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Office for Project Services, the World Food Programme, the World Health Organization and the World Bank. The International Committee of the Red Cross participates as an observer.

[2] Explosive remnants of war are defined as unexploded ordnance and abandoned explosive ordnance.

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Assistance in mine action

Assistance in mine action

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

Eliminating the threat of landmines and explosive remnants of war: United Nations advocacy strategy for 2004-2005

Summary

Objective 6.7 of the United Nations mine action strategy for 2001-2005 calls for the development of a mine action advocacy strategy. United Nations mine action partners drafted the advocacy strategy, which was endorsed by the Inter-Agency Coordination Group on Mine Action in April 2004. The new strategy, contained in the present report, will guide United Nations mine action partners in their advocacy work with national and regional mine action organizations, non-governmental organizations, non-State actors and the general public.

* A/59/150.

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I. Introduction

1. Long after conflict subsides, landmines and explosive remnants of war continue to kill and maim, to deny access to land, to preclude freedom of circulation and to obstruct achievement of the goals contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration (see General Assembly resolution 55/2). To help coordinate United Nations efforts to eliminate the threat of landmines and explosive remnants of war, a United Nations mine action strategy for 2001-2005 was developed in 2001 and revised in 2003. The Strategy reflects the input of mine-affected and donor Governments and international and non-governmental organizations. Objective 6.7 of the strategy commits the United Nations to develop an advocacy strategy to support mine action. The present report fulfils that objective and is guided by and fully compatible with the vision, mission statement, strategic goals and objectives established in the revised United Nations mine action strategy for 2001-2005. Particular attention will be paid to ensuring that the key principles underpinning the United Nations mine action strategy[1] guide implementation of the United Nations advocacy strategy.

2. The United Nations advocacy strategy seeks to ensure that all relevant United Nations system partners are contributing, as appropriate and in accordance with their mandates and comparative advantages, to advocacy initiatives for and with persons affected by landmines and explosive remnants of war. Successful implementation of the United Nations advocacy strategy will depend in large measure on the involvement of United Nations actors in mine-affected countries, in particular those working in mine action programmes in over 30 mine-affected countries.

3. The seven goals reflect the outcomes to which United Nations mine action advocacy initiatives aim to contribute. The goals are intended to be complementary, rather than hierarchical. The objectives delineate the specific contributions to be made by the United Nations system, working under the coordination of the United Nations Mine Action Service, located in the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat in partnership with Governments, international and non-governmental organizations, commercial operators, affected communities and concerned individuals. The United Nations intends to achieve all of the stated objectives by the end of 2005.

4. The Inter-Agency Coordination Group on Mine Action has established a joint implementation plan that identifies specific activities, time lines, anticipated outputs and the department, agency or office within the United Nations system with lead responsibility for each activity.[2] A subcommittee of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group will meet biannually to review progress in achieving the objectives and to revise the implementation plan, as required. The Secretary-General's annual report to the General Assembly on assistance in mine action (A/59/284) will report on progress in the implementation of the advocacy strategy.

II. Strategic goals and objectives

Goal one. All States take legislative, political and financial steps to combat the effects of landmines and explosive remnants of war.

Objective 1.1 To encourage and support all States to adhere to and comply with existing international instruments and commitments on landmines or explosive remnants of war, including the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction[3] and relevant protocols to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects.[4]

Objective 1.2 To encourage and support all States to adhere to and comply with international human rights or humanitarian law instruments or commitments that address the rights of individuals affected by landmines or explosive remnants of war, including persons with disabilities.

Objective 1.3 To raise the awareness of all States to the potential of mine action as a confidence-building measure in peacemaking and peace-building processes, with particular reference to the relationship between mine action and the sustainable return of displaced persons and refugees.

Objective 1.4 To ensure that efforts to strengthen or develop international law relevant to landmines or explosive remnants of war take United Nations mine action experience into account.

Objective 1.5 To ensure that efforts to further develop international human rights and humanitarian law and to elicit commitments that address the rights of individuals affected by landmines and/or explosive remnants of war take United Nations experience into account.

Objective 1.6 To help ensure that the First Review Conference of the States Parties to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention, to be held in Nairobi from 29 November to 3 December 2004, produces clear and measurable goals for the next five years and political and financial commitments by States parties to support implementation of the Convention.

Goal two. The general public is aware of all aspects of the landmine and explosive remnants of war problem and of strategies that have been developed to combat the problem.

Objective 2.1 To make the Electronic Mine Information Network (E-MINE: www.mineaction.org) more user-friendly and to ensure that at least an additional 2,500 users log on each year.

Objective 2.2 To broadcast at least one public service announcement a year to a wide audience that raises awareness of all aspects of mine action.

Objective 2.3 To raise awareness of the United Nations position on relevant mine action-related issues through opinion papers, news articles and radio and television interviews.

Objective 2.4 To use the First Review Conference of the States Parties to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention in 2004 to educate the public.

Objective 2.5 To develop a new communications strategy to reinforce the objectives of the advocacy strategy by the end of 2004.

Goal three. Donors are aware of funding requirements to combat the problem of landmines and explosive remnants of war and respond with adequate funding.

Objective 3.1 To encourage the General Assembly and the Security Council to authorize appropriate mandates and adequate resources for mine action in United Nations-mandated peace operations.

Objective 3.2 To provide donors with a comprehensive overview of mine action funding requirements in all countries in which the United Nations undertakes mine action.

Objective 3.3 To provide donors with quarterly updates to ensure that they are aware of urgent priorities as well as under-funded components of mine action.

Objective 3.4 To facilitate visits by donors to mine-affected countries to encourage increased funding.

Objective 3.5 To regularly present funding requirements to country-based donor coordination mechanisms (in countries with United Nations-supported mine action programmes).

Objective 3.6 To ensure that donors are aware of the need to support mine action in countries hosting displaced persons or refugees prior to their return to a mine-affected country.

Goal four. Armed non-State actors adhere to and comply with commitments and obligations to halt immediately and unconditionally new deployments of anti-personnel mines and to comply with relevant international human rights and humanitarian norms and standards.

Objective 4.1 To elicit commitments from armed non-State actors to comply with international norms regarding landmines or explosive remnants of war.

Objective 4.2 To elicit commitments from armed non-State actors to comply with international norms regarding the rights of persons affected by landmines or explosive remnants of war.

Objective 4.3 To monitor and report on relevant commitments by armed non-State actors in the appropriate forums.

Goal five. Mine action is integrated into humanitarian, peacekeeping and development programmes, plans and budgets.

Objective 5.1 To incorporate the advocacy strategy into the plans of United Nations-supported mine action programmes.

Objective 5.2 To reflect mine action concerns in all relevant reports of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly, the Security Council or the Economic and Social Council on country-specific or thematic issues.

Objective 5.3 To ensure that relevant General Assembly and Security Council resolutions and presidential statements reflect mine action concerns.

Objective 5.4 To provide peacekeeping missions with guidelines and training materials that enable peacekeeping personnel to contribute to mine action as appropriate.

Objective 5.5 To brief all United Nations officials involved in peacemaking processes or humanitarian negotiations on the incorporation of mine action into ceasefire and peace agreements.

Objective 5.6 To systematically incorporate mine action requirements into consolidated appeals, common country assessments, United Nations development assistance frameworks, poverty reduction strategy papers and reconstruction appeals, where appropriate.

Goal six. National mine action organizations incorporate the key principles of the United Nations mine action strategy into their own policies and programmes.

Objective 6.1 To ensure that gender considerations are reflected in national mine action policies and programmes.

Objective 6.2 To ensure that the principles underpinning the United Nations mine action strategy for 2001-2005 and the relevant aspects of the United Nations victim assistance policy are reflected in national mine action policies and programmes.

Objective 6.3 To ensure that national mine action priorities are considered in the development of national development plans and budgets.

Goal seven. Mine action is addressed on the agendas and in the programmes of relevant regional organizations.

Objective 7.1 To develop a regional approach to encourage all States to adhere to and comply with existing international agreements and commitments on landmines.

Objective 7.2 To encourage and assist relevant regional and subregional organizations to address mine action concerns.

Notes

[1] The six key principles of the United Nations mine action strategy for 2001-2005 are: (a) a community-centred approach; (b) a humanitarian imperative; (c) a development perspective; (d) national ownership; (e) cooperation and partnership; and (f) gender mainstreaming.

[2] Several objectives in the advocacy strategy repeat advocacy-related objectives contained in the United Nations mine action strategy. The activities planned to implement those objectives are spelled out in the implementation plan. This includes objectives 1.1, 1.2, 1.4, 1.5, 2.5, 3.2, 4.1 and 4.2.

[3] See CD/1478.

[4] See *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 5: 1980 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.81.IX.4), appendix VII.

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Item 39 (b)
Causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development

Implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa**

Progress report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report has been prepared pursuant to General Assembly resolution 58/235 of 23 December 2003, in which the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit to it at its fifty-ninth session a report on the implementation of that resolution, taking into account recent developments related to cooperation between Africa and the international community.

The report addresses the progress made and initiatives taken in the implementation of the recommendations contained in the Secretary-General's report on the causes of conflict and promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa (A/52/871-S/1998/318), identifies the challenges and constraints in that regard and makes specific proposals on the measures that need to be taken to accelerate the implementation of the recommendations.

The report notes that, while substantive progress is being made in tackling the scourge of conflicts in Africa and in laying the foundations and creating the infrastructure to deal effectively with the conflicts on the continent, some new trends and sources of conflict have emerged, compounding existing challenges. To consolidate peace throughout the continent, African countries and members of the international community need to make a concerted effort to speed up the implementation of these recommendations and to deal with new trends and sources of violent conflict.

* A/59/150.

** The delay in the submission of the present report is due to the late submission by some United Nations organizations of their input. The African Union Summit, which took important decisions in areas of peace and security relevant to the report, was held on 7 and 8 of July 2004.

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I. Introduction

1. The progress made in the implementation of the recommendations contained in the 1998 report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa (A/52/871-S/1998/318) has been monitored and reported to the General Assembly since 2000. Following its consideration of the progress report of the Secretary-General at its fifty-seventh session (A/57/172), the Assembly, by resolution 57/296 of 20 December 2002, decided to include a sub-item entitled "Causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa" under a single agenda item on the development of Africa, entitled "New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support", beginning at its fifty-eighth session. Further, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit to it at that session a comprehensive report on the sub-item. At its fifty-eighth session, having considered the requested report (A/58/352), the Assembly, by resolution 58/235 of 23 December 2003, decided to continue to monitor the implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General and requested the Secretary-General to submit to it at its fifty-ninth session a further report, taking into account recent developments related to the cooperation of Africa with the international community on the matters to which attention was drawn in that resolution. The progress made in the implementation of some of the recommendations of 1998, especially those relating to economic and social development, is dealt with in the report of the Secretary-General, entitled "New Partnership for Africa's Development: second consolidated report on progress in implementation and international support" (A/59/206). The present report should therefore be viewed as a complement to and should be read together with that report.

2. The present report updates the information contained in A/58/352, highlights areas of progress and identifies challenges and constraints in implementation. It has been compiled from information received from Member States, the African Union and organizations of the United Nations family. The report also drew on the work of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on African Countries Emerging from conflict of the Economic and Social Council and the Ad Hoc Working Group on Conflict Prevention and Resolution in Africa of the Security Council, as well as the secretariats of the African Union and the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) and civil society organizations working on the prevention of armed conflicts.

II. Overview of trends and sources of conflict in Africa

3. When the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa was first issued in 1998, 14 countries in the region had experienced armed conflict or civil strife, 11 were under severe political crisis and turbulence and only the remaining 15 enjoyed more or less stable political conditions. This gloomy picture has changed dramatically and positively over the past six years. At present, only 6 African countries can be considered to be in a situation of armed conflict and very few others are facing deep political crises. Most African countries enjoy relatively stable political conditions and are governed by democratically elected regimes. Their

efforts are directed at economic reconstruction and at combating poverty and underdevelopment, including through NEPAD. All of them are signatories to the Algiers Declaration adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity in 1999,[1] which emphasizes, inter alia, the need to change government only through constitutional means. They continue to make efforts to consolidate democracy in their respective countries by holding regular multiparty elections and establishing constitutional order, together with the necessary checks and balances.

4. African countries and regional organizations on the continent have made serious efforts to deal with the scourge of conflict by promoting peace negotiations and brokering peace agreements in Burundi, Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Liberia and the Sudan. They have also established, under the auspices of the African Union, a legal framework and structures which will enable them to deal effectively with conflicts, such as the Peace and Security Council and the Protocol relating to its establishment, and the Committee of the Wise which supports the work of the Council. They have also deployed peacekeeping forces and military observers in a number of African countries and are currently establishing an African standby force to enable them to undertake and participate more effectively in peace operations.

5. The number of military coups on the continent has diminished and countries that have experienced a coup d'état or an attempted coup d'état (Central African Republic, Comoros, Guinea-Bissau, Sao Tome and Sierra Leone) have quickly restored or are working towards the restoration of constitutional order. There have also been efforts made in Africa to improve governance and human rights records. For example, 23 countries have now acceded to the African Peer Review Mechanism of NEPAD, which was established to assess, monitor and promote good political, economic and corporate governance and human rights observance. The review process was launched in Ghana in May 2004, and support missions sent to Mauritius and Rwanda in June 2004 and to Kenya in July 2004 are to be followed by one to Mozambique.

6. One of Africa's long-standing conflicts, in Angola, has been resolved and the Security Council has approved new peacekeeping missions in Burundi, Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Liberia, and an advance team for the Sudan. Furthermore, the United Nations is working in closer collaboration with the African Union and the Government of the Sudan to find a solution to the conflict in Darfur, where human rights and the humanitarian situation remain a source of great concern. In general, there are increased prospects for peace restoration in all countries experiencing armed conflict, although instability continues in the Great Lakes region, the countries members of the Mano River Union and in parts of Central Africa.

III. Progress made in the implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General

7. Since the submission of the previous report (A/58/352), further progress has been made in the implementation of the recommendations of 1998. Details of the

action taken, the progress made and the constraints encountered are described below.

Responding to situations of conflict

1. Peacemaking

8. The appointment of special mediators remains the primary means by which the United Nations can assist Member States in resolving conflicts. My special mediators, with the support of the Department of Political Affairs, have been active in supporting regional peacemaking efforts, through cooperation with, on Burundi, the Regional Peace Initiative; on Somalia and the Sudan, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD); and on the inter-Congolese dialogue and the convening of a conference on peace and development in the Great Lakes region, the African Union.

9. There has been significant progress achieved so far by Cameroon and Nigeria, with the assistance of the United Nations, in the implementation of the ruling of the International Court of Justice of 10 October 2002, on the land and maritime boundary between the two countries. Their efforts to that end are being pursued within the framework of the Cameroon-Nigeria Mixed Commission, which I established at the request of the heads of State of the two countries and which is chaired by my Special Representative for West Africa. The process initiated by the Commission for the withdrawal of the civilian administration, military and police forces and the transfer of authority by both countries, as called for by the International Court of Justice, represents an important success story for Africa, which, when completed, will not only enhance cooperation between Cameroon and Nigeria but also enhance peace in the region. In September 2003, I appointed a Special Envoy to help resolve the long-standing territorial and maritime border dispute between Gabon and Equatorial Guinea, and there has been progress in the mediation of this dispute. In the margins of the African Union Summit that was held in Addis Ababa in July 2004, I chaired a meeting for the signing of an agreement for the joint exploration and development of the petroleum and other resources in certain areas of the economic exclusive zone under dispute.

10. The Governments of Eritrea and Ethiopia accepted to resolve their boundary dispute through an arbitration mechanism. The Eritrea-Ethiopia Boundary Commission was established in accordance with the Algiers peace agreement of December 2000. The Commission drew an internationally recognized and legally binding border between the two countries on 13 April 2002. Physical demarcation of the border was due to start in July 2003 but has unfortunately been delayed. In order to promote a peaceful settlement of the boundary dispute, I appointed a Special Envoy, but his efforts have not yielded significant results. The Peace and Security Council has decided to make the Ethiopia-Eritrea conflict one of its top four priorities.

11. By resolution 1523 (2004) of 30 January 2004, the Security Council extended the mandate of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO) until 30 April 2004 to allow my Personal Envoy for Western Saharan issues to consult further with the Government of Morocco on its final response to the Peace Plan for the Self-Determination of the People of Western Sahara, which he had submitted to the parties in January 2003. On 1 June 2004, however, my Personal

Envoy tendered his resignation, stating that he had now done all that he could to assist the parties in finding a solution to the conflict. He also stated that, while progress had been made in a number of ways during his seven years of involvement, the international community had not been able to resolve the underlying dispute. The mandate of MINURSO has since been extended until 30 October 2004, and the Mission has continued to promote peace through confidence-building measures such as facilitating the exchange of family visits between Western Sahara and the refugee camps in Algeria.

12. Efforts at promoting and reconciling the parties in conflict continued in West Africa, where the United Nations Office in West Africa is closely working with my special representatives in Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia and Sierra Leone. Addressing regional instability and preventing the escalation of conflict through peace-building has been the main focus of my special representatives in West Africa who, apart from mobilizing donor support to revive the Mano River Union, have been working with the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) to address cross-border issues affecting the region, such as the strengthening of the moratorium on small arms and light weapons, reform of the security sector, adoption of a regional approach to youth unemployment, protection of children and women against sexual exploitation and combating the use of mercenaries. An encouraging development in West Africa is the increasing engagement of the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council, which have undertaken joint missions and made specific recommendations to address the issues affecting the region.

13. **However, it should be noted that, while special mediators and special commissions continue to offer a medium for the peaceful resolution of conflicts, the primary responsibility rests in the hands of Member States, including by the implementation of the recommendations of these independent actors.**

2. Mobilizing international support for peace efforts

14. The international community has been responding more readily to situations of conflict in Africa. The positive developments in the peace process in Burundi, Liberia, Sierra Leone, and the Sudan could not have taken place without the international community's support. This support has helped to strengthen closer collaboration among the United Nations, the African Union and the African regional organizations in peacemaking in conflict situations, such as in Burundi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and in Ethiopia and Eritrea.

15. In 2002, the Group of Eight committed itself in Kananaskis, Canada, to support efforts to enhance the African capacity to engage more effectively in conflict management and resolution. This commitment was later reiterated at the Summit of the Group, held in Evian, France, in 2003. The support of the Group of Eight is also aimed at promoting African capacities to prevent or manage violent conflicts, in particular at the level of African regional organization, and to help strengthen African institutions. The international community, in particular the European Union and the Group of Eight, has provided support to the African Union on the Burundi peace process, to IGAD on the Sudan peace process, and to ECOWAS to bring peace to Liberia. Recently, the European Union has provided the African Union Peace Facility Fund with a grant of €250 million.

Challenges and constraints

16. The commitment of the Group of Eight to enhancing the capacity of African regional organizations will certainly help Africa to engage effectively in conflict management and resolution. However, the international community needs to be sensitive and responsive to the African quest for enhanced coordination and coherence, including the ambit in which the support is required.

17. The political and material support from the international community and the collaboration between the United Nations and the Bretton Woods institutions in post-conflict situations have been instrumental in peace consolidation. In the post-conflict recovery phase, there is a need for immediate peace dividends, which may help the parties to convince their followers and the general populace of the benefits of peace. In this regard, it is important that international support is also directed at the quick-impact projects that serve as incentives to peace.

3. Improving the effectiveness of sanctions

18. Since 1997, the Security Council has continued to focus sanctions by targeting the decision makers and, in some instances, their families. The travel and diplomatic sanctions applied for the first time to senior officials of the União Nacional para a Independência Total de Angola (UNITA) and their immediate families were subsequently applied to leading members of the former military junta and the Revolutionary United Front. These selective sanctions were also applied to senior members of the Government of Liberia and its armed forces and to their spouses and other individuals providing financial and military support to armed rebel groups in nearby countries. The Security Council also learned that freezing the assets of senior officials in rebel groups violating peace agreements could play a catalytic role in the resolution of conflicts. The sanctions applied to the Liberian leadership included funds and other financial and economic resources owned or controlled directly or indirectly by the then President and his children.

19. Targeted sanctions seek to minimize the adverse effects on local populations dependent upon trade with the sanctioned parties. In resolution 1295 (2000), the Security Council decided that the Angola sanctions committee should, in consultation with the Government of Angola, update the list of UNITA officials and adult members of their immediate families who are subject to travel restrictions. The Liberia sanctions committee reviews its travel ban list through a quarterly process. Requests to be removed from the lists are also considered during these processes, which allows those who consider that they have been wrongly listed recourse to the Committee.

20. Over the past several years, the Security Council has established a number of expert groups to monitor the implementation of sanctions applied by it and to investigate and report on alleged violations. These groups have included the Panel of Experts and the Monitoring Mechanism on sanctions against UNITA, the panels of experts appointed in relation to Sierra Leone and Liberia, the Panel of Experts and the Monitoring Group on Somalia, and the Group of Experts on the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The reports of these independent groups have helped to identify and expose through public scrutiny the activities of international arms merchants and their delivery networks. Through these measures, the Security Council is ensuring that sanctions regimes are being used more effectively.

4. Stopping the proliferation of arms

21. The 2003 edition of the *Small Arms Survey*,[2] a project of the Geneva-based Graduate Institute of International Studies, shows that in 44 sub-Saharan African States there are approximately 30 million small arms in circulation, including those in the hands of both insurgents and Government forces, contrary to what was believed some years ago when it was considered that there might be 100 million firearms in the hands of non-State forces in Africa. The tightening of Security Council sanctions and a series of peace agreements signed in 2002 to end conflicts in Angola and Sierra Leone, and the Luanda agreement to end hostilities between foreign forces in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, contributed to lowering the demand for small arms in Africa. In these wars, disarming the rebel forces and ensuring their integration into the national army have enabled Governments to have greater control over small arms and light weapons. There have also been greater efforts made by African and non-African States to implement the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, adopted in 2001.[3] Available data now show that 30 countries have appointed national focal points, 14 have appointed national coordination agencies, 23 have enacted laws on the production, export and transit of small arms and light weapons, 15 have declared their stockpiles and 17 have adopted weapon collection programmes. The need to encourage the implementation of the African Union's Bamako Declaration on an African Common Position on the Illicit Proliferation, Circulation and Trafficking of Small Arms and Light Weapons,[4] the 2001 Programme of Action and the various subregional agreements has been recognized by NEPAD which has identified small arms proliferation as an area for priority action. At the African Union and NEPAD consultations on peace and security, held in February 2003, a plan of action was developed to further strengthen the prevention, combat and eradication of small arms and light weapons in Africa.

22. With support from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), ECOWAS continued to implement its moratorium on small arms and light weapons. The UNDP Programme for Coordination and Assistance for Security and Development in Africa is expected to promote the objectives of the moratorium, facilitate cooperation among ECOWAS States in implementing the moratorium and stem the spread of light weapons in the region. The Department for Disarmament Affairs undertook a series of regional consultations and workshops with the African Union, ECOWAS, the Economic Community of Central African States, the countries of East Africa, the Great Lakes region and the Horn of Africa (the Nairobi Declaration States),[5] and the Southern African Development Community (SADC) on various aspects of the implementation of the 2001 Programme of Action. As a result of these efforts, many States have provided information on the legislation that they have enacted to make the violation of the arms embargo a criminal offence under national law.

23. In resolution 1478 (2003), the Security Council called upon West African States to strengthen the measures that they had taken to combat the spread of small arms and light weapons and mercenary activities and to improve the effectiveness of the ECOWAS Moratorium. The Panel of Experts on Somalia has identified concrete cases of violations of the arms embargo and made public some of the names of those who participated in the illicit arms trade (see S/2003/223 and S/2003/1035). By the end of its mandate, the panel was able to report that dozens of States had enacted legislation, with penalties ranging from $10,000 fines to imprisonment terms of up

to seven years. As regards the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Security Council, in resolution 1533 (2004), requested all States to report to the related Council Committee on the actions that they had taken to implement the arms embargo and to provide it with information on those found to have violated the arms embargo or to have supported them in undertaking such activities.

24. The Security Council is also engaged in efforts to identify the air and maritime companies whose aircraft and vessels have been used in violation of the arms embargo. Since the entry into force in 1999 of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction (more commonly known as the Mine Ban, or Ottawa Treaty), 143 countries have ratified the Treaty, 40 countries have halted the production of anti-personnel landmines and 45 States in sub-Saharan Africa are party to the Treaty. Moreover, many countries, including those that are not yet signatories to the Treaty, have agreed to stop their export of landmines. Consequently, there is less evidence of their use in Africa since 2002. In this regard, available evidence indicates that only the parties in conflict in Burundi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Somalia and parts of the Sudan continue to use anti-personnel mines.[6]

Challenges and constraints

25. In spite of worldwide efforts to curb the illicit trade in small arms, illegal traffic has continued with the involvement of State and non-State actors, individual brokers and firms. Small arms and light weapons have gone from one African country to another and have come from dealers in the North to African countries. Arms flows from within and outside the region have continued to arm insurgents and militias in a number of African countries. This situation is facilitated by individuals, State officials who continue to issue fraudulent end-user certificates, porous borders and the inability of African States to protect their airspace. **Members of the international community will need to work together to eliminate the loopholes, tighten control and implement the 2001 Programme of Action, especially with regard to enhancing the capacity of national focal points to undertake effectively actions to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons.**

26. Not all States parties to the Ottawa Treaty have declared their commitment to destroy their anti-personnel landmine stockpiles within a given time frame. The available data still point to the existence of 230 million such mines in 94 countries. Landmines tend to prolong the conflict and their impact is felt long after the conflict has ended. **Therefore, I urge those countries that are not yet party to the Ottawa Treaty to join, those that have not yet destroyed their stockpiles of anti-personnel mines to do so and those that have not yet declared their stockpiles to do so. I also urge the international community to tighten control so as to prevent traders and firms from circumventing the agreed international norms and thus make our global neighbourhood safe.**

5. Peacekeeping

27. The experience in Sierra Leone marked a watershed for the Organization and the international community in many regards. Having experienced enormous disappointments in bringing peace to Angola, the Central African Republic, Liberia, Rwanda and Somalia in the 1990s, the will of the Security Council and the

international community in general converged at a critical time to make the mission in Sierra Leone a success. This success has given confidence to the United Nations to again support complex peace operations in Africa and, today, the region receives the highest deployment of United Nations peacekeeping efforts in the world.

28. Sierra Leone was the first attempt to bridge the gap between peace and development by means of an integrated mission. The experience of appointing the Resident Coordinator as the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General, supported by an integrated task force at United Nations Headquarters, allowed the development community to work closely with peacekeepers in a mutually supportive fashion; this helped to strengthen coherence and coordination in dealing with transition issues and those relating to the reconstruction of the country. Sierra Leone also offers some lessons with regard to the cooperation between the United Nations and a regional organization. While a peacekeeping force of 17,500 provided stability in the country, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, together with the Government of Sierra Leone and ECOWAS, helped to promote political reconciliation, including by supporting the transformation of the Revolutionary United Front into a political party. This integrated approach has now been replicated in Angola, Burundi, Côte d'Ivoire and Liberia.

6. United Nations peacekeeping in Africa

29. In responding to complex conflict situations in Africa, the Security Council has supported more consistently mandates that are multidisciplinary and that thereby lay a firm ground for peace consolidation.

30. Today, multidisciplinary peacekeeping missions comprise, where necessary, building the capacity of local administrative authorities, strengthening democratic governance, comprehensive disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration programmes, security sector reform and restoration of the rule of law. These activities have been undertaken in an increasingly coordinated manner between the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and development agencies through the integrated mission task forces at Headquarters and through the appointment of deputy special representatives from UNDP to coordinate humanitarian activities and other post-conflict activities. The Organization has learned that building durable peace in post-conflict contexts, particularly after a civil war, requires addressing the root causes of conflict and promoting sustainable development, including by fostering democratic pluralism, transparent and accountable governance, the rule of law and economic recovery.

31. In many post-conflict situations in Africa, the capacity of the State to govern remains very fragile. This is due not only to the lack of resources and the flight of senior civil servants during the conflict, but also to the fragility of the Government's legitimacy and the level of confidence it enjoys from the population. Political, technical and financial resources are therefore required to assist the Government's efforts to consolidate peace.

32. By authorizing multidisciplinary missions in Burundi, Côte d'Ivoire, Liberia, Sierra Leone and the Sudan, the Security Council seeks to help build local capacity in promoting human rights and strengthening local administrative authorities in regard to responsibilities of governance. The objective of the mandates is to create the necessary conditions for the prevention of a relapse into conflict, thereby covering not only peacemaking and peacekeeping activities, but also laying a firm

ground for post-conflict and peace-building activities. In this regard, the international community has begun to develop a more coherent strategy for addressing short-term stability while undertaking efforts to ensure durable peace and stability.

33. The United Nations Mission in Côte d'Ivoire is assisting the parties to implement the Linas-Marcoussis agreement which seeks to address issues such as citizenship, identity status of foreign nationals, the electoral law, land tenure and economic recovery, while in Burundi and in Liberia, United Nations missions have been making strides in assisting these countries to reconcile their deeply divided societies, and to face up to the humanitarian and economic challenges. In the Sudan, I have appointed a Special Representative in anticipation of the signing of the comprehensive peace agreement between the Government of the Sudan and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement/Army to help to overcome the political, economic and humanitarian crisis in Darfur and to plan for a United Nations mission to assist the parties to implement the comprehensive peace agreement.

7. Efforts made by African organizations in peacekeeping

34. The African Union and other African regional organizations have continued to make efforts to restore peace on the continent. The establishment of the Peace and Security Council within the African Union has been a major boost for the organization, playing an effective role in the management and resolution of conflicts in Africa. Since its establishment, the Council has monitored developments and considered the situation in Burundi, the Central African Republic, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea and Ethiopia, Equatorial Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Sao Tome and Principe, Somalia and the Sudan. Recently, the Council met twice at the level of heads of State and Government and has decided to pay particular attention to some of the conflicts that have shown little progress in their resolution, namely, the conflicts in western Sudan (Darfur), Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and between Ethiopia and Eritrea, thus raising the prospects for a speedy restoration of peace in these countries.

35. Important progress has also been made in Burundi following the deployment of the African Mission in Burundi (AMIB) by the African Union in 2002. AMIB, with its force levels standing at 2,698, helped to stabilize the country and improve significantly its security. A United Nations peacekeeping force has taken over from AMIB and will continue to work with the African Union and Governments in the region in order to convince all parties to take part in the transitional institutions.

36. The African Union and IGAD are also making serious efforts to reconcile the Somalis, while ECOWAS and the African Union are closely working with the United Nations to consolidate peace in Côte d'Ivoire and Liberia. The African Union and African regional organizations have also made significant progress with regard to the establishment of an African standby force, following the continued commitment of the Group of Eight to support efforts to enhance African capacity to undertake peace support operations. In June 2004, the ECOWAS Defence and Security Commission approved the establishment of a standby unit of 6,500 highly trained and well-equipped soldiers, which could be deployed immediately in response to any crisis or threat to peace in West Africa. The unit will have a rapid reaction component of 1,500 soldiers, to be known as the ECOWAS Task Force. The

Task Force will be boosted to operate at the brigade level, while the remaining 1,500 would constitute a reserve force.

Challenges

37. At the summit meeting of the Group of Eight held in June 2004, some member countries made specific proposals with regard to the training and equipping of the African standby force. The African Union and the Group of Eight countries will need to reach an agreement with regard to the modalities and eligibility criteria for this support and how the support will be channelled.

38. The African Union and African Governments will also need to address the issue of the relationship between the Union and regional organizations. While on the economic front African leaders have already decided that the regional economic communities are the implementing pillars of NEPAD and that all have a role to play, the situation on the security front is not the same. The proliferation of regional organizations and their overlapping memberships make it difficult to decide which organization would play a role in security issues, especially in East Africa.

8. Supporting regional and subregional initiatives

39. There has been a positive trend on the continent regarding conflict prevention and management. The African regional organizations are increasingly taking the lead in conflict prevention and management. The African Union and African subregional organizations, in particular ECOWAS, have been playing an important role in the management of conflicts in Africa, in some cases taking the lead in actual peacekeeping operations. SADC and the African Union have taken the lead in resolving the conflict in Burundi and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. SADC is also helping to find a solution for the issue of land in Zimbabwe. In 2003, SADC launched a mutual defence pact to promote regional cooperation in regard to politics, defence and security. The pact, which is also intended to help pave the way for the creation of an SADC brigade as part of the proposed African standby force, allows for enforcement measures as a last resort, with the authorization of the Security Council. IGAD has been instrumental in facilitating the talks in Somalia and in the Sudan. In West Africa, ECOWAS has played an important role in facilitating the end of the conflict in the Mano River Union countries. I welcome the supportive efforts of Canada, Nigeria, Norway, South Africa, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and the European Union in this regard. The United Nations system has been working closely with these countries and organizations, lending its political, technical and financial support.

40. The Department of Peacekeeping Operations has had preliminary contact with some subregional organizations, including ECOWAS, ECCAS and IGAD, to identify the support needed to enhance their peacekeeping capacity. The Department has also been engaged in various peacekeeping training programmes, including training of African trainers at the various centres of excellence in Africa. It has carried out a series of pre-deployment training in peacekeeping for African troop-contributing countries. The United Nations is also cooperating with bilateral donors and other organizations involved in strengthening African peacekeeping capacity so as to ensure that all efforts in this area are closely coordinated and meet the broader United Nations peacekeeping standards.

41. The Department of Political Affairs and the Department of Peacekeeping Operations have assisted in the formulation of the concept of the establishment of the African standby force and the Military Staff Committee in the framework of implementation of the Protocol Relating to the Establishment of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union, which was endorsed by the African heads of State in Syrte, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, on 28 February 2004. Currently, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations is considering areas in which the United Nations could provide further assistance to the African Union, including the development of realistic plans of action to establish the African standby force and the reinforcement of the capacity at African Union headquarters to plan, launch and manage peacekeeping operations.

42. The United Nations system, through the Department of Political Affairs, has also worked closely with the African Union and subregional organizations and with countries which have taken the leadership role in peace initiatives, for example, the Regional Peace Initiative on Burundi, the IGAD-led peace processes in Somalia and the Sudan, the mediation efforts between the Government of the Sudan and the rebel movements in the Darfur region, and the African Union with regard to the inter-Congolese dialogue, which includes the convening of a conference on peace and development in the Great Lakes region. The main constraint for the Department of Political Affairs is the sensitivity with which African countries view interventions on behalf of good governance and peace and security. The issue of mandates, access and capacity remains a serious impediment to any advisory and preventive role that could be provided by the Department.

43. The Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs has been increasingly active in building up a working relationship with subregional organizations. The Office signed a memorandum of understanding with ECOWAS in February 2004, aimed at enhancing the latter's capacity in humanitarian action and conflict management. The Office has deployed staff in 2004 to support the newly formed ECOWAS Department of Humanitarian Affairs and is working with SADC to establish partnerships in the consolidation of existing databases for vulnerability analysis and mapping.

44. Since 1998, UNDP has led efforts to enhance the capacity of the Conflict Management Division of the African Union to enable it to play an effective role in conflict prevention. In follow-up to this effort, UNDP is providing support to the African Union Peace and Security Directorate for the implementation of the Peace and Security Agenda by enhancing the capacity of the organization to undertake conflict prevention, helping to ensure the effective operation of the Peace and Security Council, and assisting in the strengthening of institutions and programmes for preventive diplomacy and the mobilization of resources for peace and security. UNDP is also assisting some Governments in Africa in developing the capacity to undertake conflict prevention and assisting the countries of the Great Lakes region in addressing the proliferation of small arms in the region.

45. There has also been re-engagement on the part of the international community, in particular the Security Council, in supporting peace operations in Africa. Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Liberia and Sierra Leone have all seen active engagement. The Council has demonstrated a willingness to support operations when the parties to the conflict have themselves shown their commitment

to finding a negotiated solution and when the regional organizations have played an active role in facilitating the finding of that solution.

9. Protecting civilians in situations of conflict

46. The promotion and protection of human rights has been increasingly mainstreamed in the work of the Organization. Most United Nations activities and programmes today are guided by a rights-based approach. Recent peace operations in Africa have included a human rights component as an integral part of the mission, financed through assessed contributions. However, where peacekeeping operations have not been established, independent human rights monitoring is the only means for the United Nations to monitor and report on the situation. Reporting by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to the Security Council on Côte d'Ivoire in March 2004 and on the situation in Darfur was based on such an operation. Such human rights missions continue to be undertaken through voluntary funding and hence are rarely carried out, despite the greater need for them in providing a means of protection for civilians through their monitoring and reporting activities which help to mobilize international support.

47. The concept of protection of civilians in armed conflict was first introduced in my 1998 report (A/52/871-S/1998/318), in which I identified the protection of civilians in situations of conflict as a humanitarian imperative. This stemmed from the reality that, in recent years, civilian populations had become increasingly the main targets of armed groups rather than the indirect victims. However, much progress has been made in this regard. The Security Council has heeded my recommendation that more attention be paid to the monitoring and reporting of respect for human rights during armed conflicts. The Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs has also broken new ground in developing the policy framework for this culture of protection, in close collaboration with other United Nations departments, humanitarian partner agencies and interested Member States.

48. The Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict has played an important advocacy role in raising the profile of children in armed conflict, which has resulted in strengthening and expanding the scope of international instruments for child protection. The Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict,[7] which has been ratified by 63 States, establishes an age limit of 18 years for compulsory recruitment and participation in hostilities and a minimum age of 16 years for voluntary recruitment. The African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child,[8] which has been ratified by 31 States, is the first regional instrument to establish 18 years as the minimum age for all compulsory military recruitment and participation in hostilities.

49. Despite such progress, however, children continue to be used in armed conflicts in West Africa and the Great Lakes region. Sexual and gender-based violence against women and girls continues to be used as a weapon of war in many African conflicts. Civilians continue to be targeted in conflicts through killing, maiming and displacement from their homes. In my recent report on the protection of civilians in armed conflict (S/2004/431), I examined the issues outlined in a 10-point platform and identified specific ways to assist Member States in meeting their protection obligations. **In this regard, where parties to a conflict fail to protect civilians or indeed target them, the international community should continue to**

take measures to call for accountability, including through judicial means, as in the case of the Special Court in Sierra Leone.

10. Addressing refugee security issues

50. Despite their difficulties at home, many African countries have provided asylum to refugees fleeing conflicts in neighbouring countries. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), in collaboration with UNDP, the World Food Programme (WFP), the United Nations Children's Fund and other United Nations agencies, continues to provide assistance and protection for refugees in Africa. The United Nations system has made a particular effort to address the special needs and vulnerabilities of women and children through coordinated policies and standard operating procedures that address such issues as special health programmes for women, education for girl refugees, reintegration of child soldiers and providing women with control over food distribution.

51. The United Nations system, through UNHCR, WFP, the United Nations Environment Programme, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) has also undertaken various efforts to assist African countries to receive and provide support to refugees and to address the environmental impact of receiving large numbers of refugees. These efforts include providing food, shelter and assistance in reforestation, agriculture and water sanitation, as well as designing financial programmes that will cover the cost of absorbing refugees and mobilizing international financial assistance for the host countries. In close collaboration with the World Bank and through the Cities Alliance Programme, UN-Habitat is assisting African countries to design and implement resettlement programmes. WFP and UNHCR also issued new provisional guidelines for joint assessments of refugee situations in May 2004. These include a module on assessment of the actions needed to protect the environment and the natural resource base of the refugee-hosting area. Burundi, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Guinea, Liberia, Rwanda, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania have all received some of this support.

52. While these efforts contributed to the alleviation of the social, economic and environmental burden of countries which are hosting large numbers of refugees, the host Governments continue to face potentially destabilizing security challenges. The difficulty in separating the civilian population from soldiers and militiamen continues to pose a challenge. Armed groups use the cover of civilian populations and refugees to regroup and launch attacks on the countries from which they have fled. Some of them have also become mercenaries in neighbouring conflicts. The Mano River Union countries and the countries of the Great Lakes region currently face such challenges, as do Chad, Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda. While the United Nations system, through the Executive Committee on Humanitarian Affairs, is currently developing the criteria and procedures for distinguishing armed elements from the civilian population, the implementation of such criteria may pose serious challenges to unarmed civilian humanitarian workers and may require Member States to revisit the issue of security in refugee camps.

11. Coordination of humanitarian assistance

53. The coordination of humanitarian assistance in Africa has improved over the years, both among the humanitarian actors and between relief and development

assistance. The Executive Committee on Humanitarian Affairs continues to provide the overarching policy framework for the work of the Organization in the humanitarian field. The Committee's Implementation Group on the Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflict provides a platform for improved inter-agency coordination and for facilitating a system-wide approach to the issue. The Inter-Agency Standing Committee has strengthened its coordination activities in relation to African emergencies by reviewing situations of individual countries in regular working group meetings. The Executive Committee on Humanitarian Affairs has adopted a more systematic and coordinated approach to transitional issues.

54. The Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs has played a key role in developing United Nations integrated missions for 10 of 24 complex emergencies. Such missions bring together the peacekeeping, political, humanitarian and development activities of the United Nations. My appointment of deputy special representatives to serve as both humanitarian and resident coordinators, as in Sierra Leone, allows for greater collaboration and consensus among the United Nations humanitarian, peacekeeping and development initiatives. In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and other organizations of the United Nations family have developed, with the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, a framework of coordination which allows better protection for civilians and a more effective provision of emergency assistance.

12. Post-conflict peace-building

55. The United Nations peace-building support offices in the Central African Republic and Guinea-Bissau continue to assist the host countries in promoting good governance, democracy and respect for the rule of law and in mobilizing international political support for reconstruction and sustainable socio-economic development. Despite various destabilizing factors, such as the military coups in the Central African Republic in March 2003 and in Guinea-Bissau in September 2003, the United Nations Peace-building Support Office in the Central African Republic (BONUCA) and the United Nations Peace-building Support Office in Guinea-Bissau (UNOGBIS) assisted in the restoration and consolidation of constitutional normality. UNOGBIS contributed to the successful holding of legislative elections in March 2004 and BONUCA facilitated the establishment of a consultative mechanism composed of representatives from the transitional Government, political leaders and civil society.

56. An inter-agency working group was established by the Executive Committee on Humanitarian Affairs and the United Nations Development Group. The report of the working group also highlighted the need for a single coherent strategy of transition, based on shared contextual analysis and needs assessment for the United Nations system. In response to the report, a standing mechanism has been established under the auspices of the Executive Committee, the Development Group and the Executive Committee on Peace and Security to provide support and guidance to the United Nations country team on planning the transition process.

57. The International Labour Organization is providing technical cooperation support for employment promotion in a number of post-conflict countries. The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development has continued its Entrepreneurship Development Programme (Empretec), supporting local

entrepreneurs with their business ventures, which in turn create new jobs. The United Nations Industrial Development Organization has initiated programmes, such as that on rural energy development for productive use in Africa's post-conflict countries. Integrated programmes on post-conflict activities are about to be finalized for the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire and Sierra Leone; the programmes focus on industrial rehabilitation, with specific attention given to the agro-industries sector. Fact-finding missions to develop post-conflict programmes are scheduled for Guinea-Bissau and Liberia in the second half of 2004 and 2005. The International Civil Aviation Organization has been involved in identifying needs and assisting the rehabilitation of the airports and civil aviation facilities destroyed by war, such as those in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Somalia.

58. While the policy and operations of the United Nations system have improved with regard to coordination and coherence between humanitarian and development activities, it has not always been matched with corresponding changes in the way the intergovernmental system or donors deal with the financing of activities during the critical period of transition. **The divide between assessed contributions for peace operations and voluntary contributions for critical humanitarian and development activities during a period of transition continues to be an impediment to the seamless support that is needed to move a country from humanitarian assistance, peacekeeping and peace-building support to long-term development programming.**

13. Financing recovery

59. Since 1995, the IMF policy on emergency assistance has expanded to cover countries in post-conflict situations. The World Bank has also become more responsive to the economic needs of countries that have been disrupted by conflict. Strategies such as the World Bank's transitional support strategies help to support countries that are in transition from conflict by closely aligning their priorities with the objectives and sequencing of the priorities set forth in peace accords and recovery plans. **IMF and World Bank have demonstrated remarkable flexibility and foresight in the efforts undertaken for Guinea-Bissau and Burundi. Such flexibility is required from more donors to meet the complex demands of peace consolidation and recovery.**

14. Working towards a coordinated international response

60. The creation of the Economic and Social Council Ad Hoc Advisory Group on African Countries Emerging from Conflict, which has focused on both Burundi and Guinea-Bissau, has provided a unique modality for emphasizing that a coordinated international response is both desirable and possible. The Advisory Group has laid the basis for interaction between the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council on common areas of concern, bridging the gap between peace and development within their respective spheres of competence and addressing the socio-economic and the political sides of post-conflict recovery in a coherent way that is consistent with their respective responsibilities under the Charter. The Ad Hoc Advisory Group has promoted greater collaboration between the United Nations and the Bretton Woods institutions in post-conflict situations, in particular in Burundi and Guinea-Bissau. The Group has also encouraged the Government of Burundi to prepare a poverty reduction strategy paper and called on donors to make contributions to the multi-year debt trust fund established by the World Bank for

Burundi. It also encouraged the Bretton Woods institutions to continue support to the country and has closely followed developments in this regard.

15. Securing respect for human rights and the rule of law

61. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights has been working closely with United Nations agencies to mainstream the rights-based approach into development in the light of the role played by these agencies in African development. Recently, it has increased cooperation with the African Union with a view to ensuring that the rights-based approach is also mainstreamed into the work of the African Union. Recently, both have agreed to work closely together to monitor compliance with human rights in conflicts in Africa, especially in Darfur and the Great Lakes region. In preparation for the Great Lakes conference, the Office organized a seminar in Yaoundé in May 2004 to take stock of the situation of human rights in the Region. At the seminar, the reasons leading to the systematic violation of human rights in the region, as well as policies and instruments to enhance the protection of human rights, were identified. I therefore urge the Governments of the Great Lakes countries to consider these important recommendations for the conference planned in 2005.

62. Progress has also been made in regard to the establishment of the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights. The Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights came into force on 25 January 2004, following its ratification by 15 member States. Currently, the African Union is leading efforts to operationalize the Court by undertaking consultations on the seat of the Court and to facilitate the election of judges.

16. Promoting transparency and accountability in public administration

63. African Governments and donors continue to enhance the capacity of public administration. Through the NEPAD initiative, donors and African countries recognize that civil servants are at the heart of the effort to improve transparency and good governance. Donors have been more willing to assist African Governments to strengthen their public services in order to improve efficiency, deliver on better programming and deliver more effective implementation. Recent initiatives by the Commonwealth and the African public services pave the way for closer collaboration and engagement in the reform and development of the public sector across the African Commonwealth countries in order to share and transfer knowledge in improving public service efficiency. The efforts of the Commonwealth to support the Ministry of Justice of Sierra Leone to appoint Commonwealth judges to the Anti-Corruption Court and begin to locate some of those accused of corruption is a significant manifestation of the political will to fight corruption in Africa.

Challenges

64. **While progress has been made in enacting programmes to enhance transparency and accountability in public administration, political will on the part of Governments, responsibility on the part of donors and civic consciousness on the part of African population need to be further enhanced to eradicate corruption.**

17. Managing natural resources

65. The management of natural resources deserves further attention on the continent and by the international community. **The United Nations family of organizations has been paying particular attention to this issue by supporting local efforts with the expertise and resources needed to develop good management schemes for natural resources. For example, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs has continued to provide technical support to the Niger Basin Authority and the Lake Chad Basin Commission to strengthen their management of water and energy resources.**

66. As most of the intractable conflicts on the continent come to an end, the durability of peace will depend greatly on the capacity of each new Government to take control of the natural resources and manage the wealth of the State in a transparent and accountable manner that will benefit its people. The illicit exploitation of columbo-tantalite, alluvial gold and silver, diamonds, semi-precious stones, timber and cash crops such as coffee and cocoa have provided rebel movements with revenue to rearm and prolong the fighting or the State parties to conflict to train and equip the rebels to fight surrogate wars and to deprive millions of people of the benefits to be derived from the exploitation of these resources.

67. The international community has supported the creation of an environment that will allow greater control over the illicit exploitation of natural resources. The emerging coordination between the private sector and Member States in developing a regime to help to reduce the flow of resources to warring parties is welcomed. In this regard, the Kimberley Process has developed a means of preventing conflict diamonds from entering the marketplace. The Process is an important instrument for maintaining peace by helping to deny resources to rebel movements and by strengthening legitimate Governments.

18. Emphasizing social development

Eliminating all forms of discrimination against women

68. The United Nations, in particular through the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), has adopted a proactive approach in assisting African States to close gender gaps in governance and education, to meet the nutritional requirements of expectant and nursing mothers and adolescent girls, to empower women (e.g., through asset-creation interventions, changes in food distribution mechanisms and increased participation of women in food distribution committees) and to make progress towards the achievement of gender equality in the workplace. The implementation of this gender policy is based on four pillars: guidelines, training, baselines and good practice case studies. Gender focal points from more than 30 countries were trained to implement the survey. However, as at June 2004, only 17 African States had ratified the Optional Protocol adopted by the General Assembly in 1999 to accelerate the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women. At the African Union summit meeting held in Addis Ababa in 2004, African heads of State and Government pledged to sign and ratify the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the rights of women in Africa by the end of 2004 and to support the launching of public campaigns aimed at its entry into force in 2005. Meanwhile, it is a welcome development that 50 per cent of the commissioners of

the African Union are women and the First Speaker of the new African Parliament is a woman. In southern Africa, UNIFEM supported the SADC Parliamentary Forum to build the skills of the women's caucus in leadership, gender and human rights, and lobbying and advocacy in order to move closer to attaining the goal of a 30 per cent representation of women by 2005, as envisaged in the SADC Gender and Development Declaration of 8 September 1997.

69. The humanitarian community has also developed strategies aimed at preventing and responding to sexual and gender-based violence in conflict situations. Gender sensitivity is part of security, health, humanitarian and development programming in every post-conflict context in Africa. Practical policies and guidelines have been adopted and improvements made in the structure of peacekeeping and assessment missions to include gender advisers and child protection advisers. UNFPA has also taken steps to provide protection to victims of sexual and gender-based violence. Through an internal bulletin issued in 2003, I have instructed that the sexual exploitation and abuse of women and children in armed conflict by United Nations personnel must be addressed and that a minimum standard of behaviour should be followed and measures taken to prevent sexual exploitation and abuse.

IV. Conclusions and recommendations

70. Since the issuance of my previous report in 2003, further progress has been made in the implementation of the recommendations contained in my 1998 report. In this regard, while steady progress is noted in areas such as peacemaking and peacekeeping, in other areas — such as the strengthening of democratic governance, enhancing administrative capacity and ensuring the independence of judiciary and promoting transparency and accountability — progress has been modest and slow. Slow progress is also shown in poverty reduction, despite the great efforts made by African countries to implement NEPAD and create an enabling environment for economic growth and sustainable development. Greater efforts are also being made to implement the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects and to prevent the harbouring of opponents with military capabilities in neighbouring countries and uncontrolled military groups.

71. There are also a number of trends which could potentially affect the peace and stability of the continent. One such trend is the worsening conditions for young people, especially in the light of high unemployment rates, which could also be a potential source of threats to peace and stability. The crisis of youth unemployment is more pronounced in countries emerging from conflict, where disarmament, demobilization and reintegration activities have been inadequate in addressing the problems of young people. **There is a need to address the challenges faced by young people in order to prevent new conflicts or a relapse into conflict in countries in which wars have ended.**

72. Another trend is the spread of the HIV/AIDS pandemic which has a potential to destabilize African States in view of the significant number of civil servants, professionals and the productive force that are affected by it, and the governance vacuum and weak economies created by the impact of the disease. While proving to be a devastating obstacle to development, the pandemic is also taking a heavy toll on Africa's women who are the main caregivers for family members living with

HIV/AIDS and who must be involved in all efforts to halt its spread. The growing loss of personnel in the military forces and police through HIV/AIDS undermines the ability of African countries to protect their citizens and borders and to fight against civil and international terrorism. **Increased efforts need to be directed towards fighting HIV/AIDS in Africa.**

73. The illicit exploitation of and trade in natural resources have also been a major source of continued instability on the African continent. **Some progress has been made through the Kimberley Process to regulate the trade in diamonds, but Member States need to seek ways of tightening the rules and controls in order to ensure compliance in this regard.**

74. Demographic pressures are increasing in many poor and ecologically fragile zones in both urban and rural areas in Africa as a result of high fertility rates and a shortage of arable land. Demographic pressures threaten to undermine all of the positive efforts of the United Nations and African Governments in areas such as peace-building and the promotion of good governance and democratization. **Member States need to pay attention to the demographic pressures and issues of migration that are becoming an increasing source of tension in West, Central and East Africa.**

75. **There is a need for the international community to engage more seriously in the fight against poverty. It has therefore become urgent to accelerate the implementation of NEPAD, in both the creation of conditions for sustainable development through the consolidation of peace and security, democratization and governance and the implementation of projects in other NEPAD priority areas.**

76. **Finally, I urge Member States to support efforts to strengthen cooperation among the United Nations system, the African Union and other African regional organizations in the maintenance of international peace and security. The nature, scope and orientation of the activities of the African Union are vastly different from those of its predecessor, the Organization of African Unity. In order to boost the efforts of the Union in undertaking peace operations, creative ideas, new forms of collaboration and enhanced coordination are required from the United Nations system. Consequently, I will instruct relevant agencies, departments and offices to look into new ways of collaboration between the United Nations and the African Union in the light of this new reality.**

Notes

[1] See A/54/424, annex II, decision AHG/Decl. 1 (XXXV).

[2] Graduate Institute of International Studies, *Small Arms Survey 2003: Development Denied* (Oxford University Press, June 2003).

[3] See *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, New York, 9-20 July 2001* (A/CONF.192/15), chap. IV, para. 24.

[4] A/CONF.192/PC/23, annex.

[5] Burundi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Kenya, Rwanda, the Sudan, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania.

[6] International Campaign to Ban Landmines, *Landmine Monitor Report 2003: Toward a Mine-free World* (see http://www.icbl.org, 2003).

[7] General Assembly resolution 54/263, annex II.

[8] Human Rights: A Compilation of International Instruments, vol. II: Regional Instruments (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.XIV.1), sect. C, No. 39.

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Financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone

Revised budget for the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone for the period from 1 July 2004 to 30 June 2005

Report of the Secretary-General

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* A/59/150.

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Summary

The initial budget for the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL) for the period from 1 July 2004 to 30 June 2005, as contained in document A/58/661 of 22 December 2003, amounted to $199,799,800. This initial budget was prepared in accordance with the four-stage modified status quo drawdown plan for the mission, as endorsed by the Security Council in its resolution 1492 (2003) of 18 July 2003, which envisaged a complete withdrawal of the peacekeeping troops by December 2004, as set out in paragraphs 37 to 40 of the report of the Secretary-General to the Security Council of 23 June 2003 (S/2003/663).

Given the limited capacity of the Sierra Leone police and armed forces to maintain security and stability effectively in the region as indicated by the Secretary-General in his report of 19 March 2004 (S/2004/228), the Security Council, in paragraph 5 of its resolution 1537 (2004) of 30 March 2004, decided that a residual UNAMSIL presence would remain in Sierra Leone, for an initial period of six months from 1 January 2005, reduced from the December 2004 level of 5,000 troops by 28 February 2005 to a new ceiling of 3,250 troops, 141 military observers and 80 United Nations civilian police personnel, and requested the Secretary-General to proceed with planning on the basis of the recommendations in his report, in order to ensure a seamless transition from the current configuration of UNAMSIL to the residual presence.

Pending the submission of a revised budget, and on the basis of the recommendation of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (see A/58/759/Add.3), the General Assembly, by its resolution 58/308 of 18 June 2004, appropriated an amount of $196,982,200 for the maintenance of the Mission for the period from 1 July 2004 to 30 June 2005.

The present report contains the revised budget for the 12-month period from 1 July 2004 to 30 June 2005 for the operation of UNAMSIL, which incorporates additional requirements relating to a more gradual reduction in personnel through the period ending 30 June 2005. The revised budget amounts to $291,603,600, which reflects an increase of $94,621,400. The revised budget provides for the maximum monthly deployment of 9,800 military contingent personnel, 260 military observers, 130 civilian police, 335 international staff, 556 national staff and 147 United Nations Volunteers for the maintenance of the Mission for the period from 1 July 2004 to 30 June 2005.

Financial resources

(Thousands of United States dollars. Budget year is from 1 July to 30 June.)

Category	*1 July 2003 to 30 June 2004*	*1 July 2004 to 30 June 2005*	*1 July 2004 to 30 June 2005*	Variance	
	Apportionment (1)	*Initial apportionment (2)*	*Revised cost estimates (3)*	*Amount (4)=(3)-(2)*	*Percentage (5)=(4)÷(2)*
Military and police personnel	314 274.1	111 152.2	143 428.2	32 276.0	29.0
Civilian personnel	47 325.3	34 445.3	50 413.1	15 967.8	46.4
Operational costs	158 454.2	51 384.7	97 762.3	46 377.6	90.3
Gross requirements	**520 053.6**	**196 982.2**	**291 603.6**	**94 621.4**	**48.0**
Staff assessment income	5 882.4	4 280.6	6 377.1	2 096.5	49.0
Net requirements	**514 171.2**	**192 701.6**	**285 226.5**	**92 524.9**	**48.0**
Voluntary contributions in kind (budgeted)	—	—	—	—	—
Total requirements	**520 053.6**	**196 982.2**	**291 603.6**	**94 621.4**	**48.0**

Human resources

	Military observers[a,b]	*Military contingents*[a,b]	*Civilian police*[a,b]	*Formed police units*	*International staff*[c]	*National staff*[c]	*United Nations Volunteers*[c]	*Government-provided personnel*	*Civilian electoral observers*	*Total*
Executive direction and management										
Current	—	—	—	—	10	2	—	—	—	**12**
Proposed	—	—	—	—	10	2	—	—	—	**12**
Components										
Substantive civilians										
Current	—	—	—	—	63	41	25	—	—	**129**
Proposed	—	—	—	—	63	41	25	—	—	**129**
Military										
Current	260	10 339	—	—	7	45	—	—	—	**10 651**
Proposed	260	9 800	—	—	7	45	—	—	—	**10 112**
Civilian police										
Current	—	—	150	—	2	10	—	—	—	**162**
Proposed	—	—	130	—	2	10	—	—	—	**142**
Support										
Current	—	—	—	—	253	458	122	—	—	**833**
Proposed	—	—	—	—	253	458	122	—	—	**833**
Total										
Current	260	10 339	150	—	335	556	147	—	—	**11 787**
Proposed	260	9 800	130	—	335	556	147	—	—	**11 228**
Net change	—	**(539)**	**(20)**	—	—	—	—	—	—	**(559)**

[a] Represents highest level of authorized/proposed strength.

[b] The budget is based on the drawdown schedule contained in paragraph 5 of Security Council resolution 1537 (2004). The actions to be taken by the General Assembly are set out in section IV.

I. Mandate and planned results

1. The Security Council established the mandate of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL) in its resolution 1270 (1999). The current mandate of the Mission expires on 30 September 2004 (Security Council resolution 1537 (2004) of 30 March 2004).

2. The Mission is mandated to help the Security Council achieve an overall objective, namely, to consolidate peace and stability in Sierra Leone.

3. Within this overall objective, the Mission will, during the budgeting period, contribute to a number of expected accomplishments by delivering related key outputs, shown in the frameworks below. These frameworks are grouped by components: substantive civilian, military, civilian police, as well as support.

4. The expected accomplishments would lead to the fulfilment of the Security Council objective within the time frame of the Mission; the indicators of achievement provide a measurement of progress towards such accomplishments during the budget period. The human resources of the Mission in terms of the number of personnel have been attributed to the individual components, with the exception of the Mission's executive direction and management, which can be attributed to the Mission as a whole.

5. The overall objective to be achieved by the Mission, as well as the planned progress towards the expected accomplishments as measured by the indicators of achievement reflected in this revised budget, are similar in most cases to the planned progress reflected in the 2004/2005 initial budget. The revised framework, however, includes a number of revisions to the planned outputs to be delivered, which now covers a full twelve-month financial period rather than the six-month maintenance period and the three-month liquidation period in the 2004/2005 initial budget. The planned outputs have been revised in all areas of the standard substantive civilian, military, civilian police and support components. The revisions are primarily in the areas of statistics and figures, where higher planned outputs are now expected to be delivered by the proposed additional resources being requested.

Executive direction and management

6. Overall mission direction and management are to be provided by the immediate Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General.

Table 1
Human resources: Executive direction and management

	International staff										
	USG -ASG	*D-2 -D-1*	*P-5 -P-4*	*P-3 -P-1*	*Field Service*	*General Service*	*Security Service*	***Subtotal***	*National staff*	*United Nations Volunteers*	***Total***
Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General											
Current	1	—	5	—	1	3	—	**10**	2	—	**12**
Proposed	1	—	5	—	1	3	—	**10**	2	—	**12**
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Component 1: Substantive civilian

Expected accomplishments	*Indicators of achievement*
[1.1] Progress towards political stability in Sierra Leone	[1.1.1] Continued participation in Parliamentary activities of 5 out of 10 registered political parties
	[1.1.2] Local government councils established in all 14 districts

Outputs

- Regular political analysis and guidance provided to the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) on Sierra Leone and the Manu River Union
- Good offices provided and contact facilitated between/among the political parties
- Four reports of the Secretary-General on UNAMSIL
- Regular meetings of substantive officers with 100 local district officials responsible for peace consolidation
- Media products for progress towards political stability in Sierra Leone, comprising 12 daily and 29 weekly UNAMSIL and outreach radio programmes (24-hour a day broadcasting) in six languages, covering 14 regions
- 60 independent local journalists trained in professional journalism and responsible reporting
- 4 high-level meetings between UNAMSIL and the Government of Sierra Leone in addition to bi-weekly meetings between the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and the Head of State on political, socio-economic and security issues
- 50 press briefings for local and international journalists on UNAMSIL activities
- The establishment of peace and reconciliation committees facilitated in 149 chiefdoms through the application of crisis resolution techniques, ongoing discussions and consultations with paramount chiefs, local chiefs, community leaders and representatives of civil society, including religious groups
- 2 workshops promoting youth empowerment on "Voice of children" on Radio UNAMSIL

Expected accomplishments	*Indicators of achievement*
[1.2] Consolidation of the authority of the Government of Sierra Leone, decentralization of power and good governance	[1.2.1] 150 government officials working in the provinces in 2004/05 as compared to 120 in 2003/04
	[1.2.2] Diamond exports increased from $70 million in 2003/04 to $100 million in 2004/05, as regulated by the Government of Sierra Leone

Outputs

- Regular meetings facilitated with United Nations agencies, including the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the World Food Programme (WFP), the World Health Organization (WHO), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Bank, to coordinate assistance to the Government of Sierra Leone
- Support provided to the Government of Sierra Leone for verification of strategic mineral resources through a survey to identify legal and illegal sites using the Geographical Information System (GIS)
- 19 quick-impact projects implemented in all UNAMSIL deployment locations
- 6 meetings of the Development and Partnership Committee facilitated, with the participation of all ministers of Sierra Leone, and bilateral and multilateral institutions, including the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and other donor partners
- 6 high-level meetings on mining held with the participation of the Ministers of Finance, Internal Affairs, and Mineral Resources, and the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and other donor partners
- 250 mining sites surveyed
- 1 survey map on 24 mining sites produced
- 298 chiefdom officials in 149 chiefdoms trained in public administration and management skills
- 150 key government officials at the district level trained in public administration and management skills
- Implementation of national youth policy facilitated by organizing seminars and conferences on youth civic responsibilities and capacity-building in collaboration with UNDP
- A national cadastral system established and diamond mining boundaries in 12 chiefdoms demarcated

Expected accomplishments	*Indicators of achievement*
[1.3] Progress towards respect for and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms in Sierra Leone	[1.3.1] Number of local human rights NGOs in Sierra Leone increased from 50 in the 2003/04 financial period to 75 in the 2004/05 financial period
	[1.3.2] 2 per cent of reported cases of domestic violence against women and children prosecuted in the 2004/05 financial period as compared to 0.5 per cent in the 2002/03 financial period
	[1.3.3] Legislation on the establishment of the Human Rights Commission passed by Parliament

Outputs

- One or more pieces of human rights legislation recommended to the Government for harmonization with international standards
- 500 government officials trained in human rights and child rights
- 500 Sierra Leonean human rights monitors trained in basic human rights
- 200 teachers trained in human rights
- 200 Sierra Leone Police officers, including Family Support Unit officers, trained in human rights
- 100 prison officers trained in human rights
- 100 probation officers trained in human rights
- 50 police prosecutors trained in human rights
- Technical advice provided to the Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender and Children's Affairs and the National Commission for War-Affected Children on adoption by Parliament of a child rights bill and formulation of a national children's policy
- 100 officers of the Republic of Sierra Leone Armed Forces trained in human rights
- 100 youths, schoolboys and schoolgirls sensitized on human rights
- The establishment of two human rights reference libraries facilitated by holding meetings and making contacts with potential donors
- 50 sensitization programmes on human rights on Radio UNAMSIL
- Technical advice provided to Parliament on the legislation for the establishment of the National Human Rights Commission for Sierra Leone
- The dissemination of the final report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission facilitated
- Local human rights committees created in two districts
- 10 nationals trained in the operation and management of the "Voice of children" radio programme
- HIV outreach, sensitization and capacity-building programmes for local vulnerable communities
- HIV technical assistance to the local administration, in collaboration with other agencies, for the planning and design of national programmes

External factors

Subregional stability will be maintained

Table 2
Human resources: Component 1, Substantive civilian

	International staff										
	USG -ASG	*D-2 -D-1*	*P-5 -P-4*	*P-3 -P-1*	*Field Service*	*General Service*	*Security Service*	*Subtotal*	*National staff*	*United Nations Volunteers*	*Total*
Office of the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General											
Current	1	—	3	2	—	2	—	**8**	2	—	**10**
Proposed	1	—	3	2	—	2	—	**8**	2	—	**10**
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Human Rights Office											
Current	—	1	5	10	1	1	—	**18**	2	2	**22**
Proposed	—	1	5	10	1	1	—	**18**	2	2	**22**
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Political Affairs Office											
Current	—	1	1	3	2	—	—	7	3	—	**10**
Proposed	—	1	1	3	2	—	—	7	3	—	**10**
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Policy and Planning Section											
Current	—	1	1	1	—	2	—	**5**	—	—	**5**
Proposed	—	1	1	1	—	2	—	**5**	—	—	**5**
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Civil Affairs Office											
Current	—	—	8	4	1	—	—	13	10	8	**31**
Proposed	—	—	8	4	1	—	—	13	10	8	**31**
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Disarmament, Demobilization and Reconstruction											
Current	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	**2**	—	15	**17**
Proposed	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	**2**	—	15	**17**
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Public Information Office											
Current	—	—	3	5	—	2	—	**10**	24	—	**34**
Proposed	—	—	3	5	—	2	—	**10**	24	—	**34**
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total											
Current	1	3	23	25	4	7	—	**63**	41	25	**129**
Proposed	1	3	23	25	4	7	—	**63**	41	25	**129**
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Component 2: Military

Expected accomplishments	*Indicators of achievement*
[2.1] Security maintained throughout Sierra Leone	[2.1.1] Zero reported border incursions
	[2.1.2] Zero internal security incidents requiring military intervention

Outputs

- Daily working-level meeting with security agencies of the Government of Sierra Leone
- Monthly high-level meetings with security agencies of the Government of Sierra Leone
- 67,684 military observer mobile patrol days (4 military observers per patrol, 4 patrols each from 14 team sites for 212 days; and 4 military observers per patrol, 3 patrols each from 11 team sites for 153 days)
- 602,400 troop mobile patrol days (20 troops per patrol, 15 patrols per battalion, 4 battalions per sector, 2 sectors for 92 days; 20 troops per patrol, 15 patrols per battalion, 3 battalions per sector, 2 sectors for 151 days; and 20 troops per patrol, 15 patrols per battalion, 3 battalions per sector for 122 days)
- 2,850 air patrol and manoeuvre hours (25 hours per month per MI-8 helicopter, 11 helicopters for 6 months; and 25 hours per month per MI-8 helicopter, 8 helicopters for 6 months)
- 282,875 troops — battalion size quick response days (775 troops per battalion, 1 battalion quick response for 365 days)

External factors

The subregional security situation will not affect the Sierra Leonean security situation

Table 3
Human resources: Component 2, Military

	Total
I. Military observers	
Current	**260**
Proposed	**260**
Net change	**—**
II. Military contingents	
Current	**10 339**
Proposed	**9 800**
Net change	**(539)**

III. Civilian staff	International staff								National staff	United Nations Volunteers	Total
	USG -ASG	D-2 -D-1	P-5 -P-4	P-3 -P-1	Field Service	General Service	Security Service	Subtotal			
Office of the Force Commander											
Current	1	—	—	—	—	4	—	5	13	—	18
Proposed	1	—	—	—	—	4	—	5	13	—	18
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Office of the Deputy Force Commander/Chief Military Observer											
Current	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	2	32	—	34
Proposed	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	2	32	—	34
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Subtotal, civilian staff											
Current	1	1	—	—	—	5	—	7	45	—	52
Proposed	1	1	—	—	—	5	—	7	45	—	52
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total (I-III)											
Current											10 651
Proposed											10 112
Net change											(539)

Component 3: Civilian Police

Expected accomplishments	*Indicators of achievement*
[3.1] Progress towards an effective and accountable Sierra Leone Police Service	[3.1.1] 1,450 Sierra Leone Police officers deployed in 2004/2005 in the areas of Kono and Kailahun, which have the highest security needs, as compared to 979 in 2003/2004
	[3.1.2] Number of Sierra Leone Police officers increased from 8,000 in 2003/2004 to 9,500 in 2004/2005

Outputs

- 1,800 new Sierra Leone Police officers recruited and trained
- Sierra Leone Police manuals and procedures revised and updated
- 2,000 Sierra Leone Police officers given on-the-job training in public order management
- 500 serving Sierra Leone Police middle managers trained in supervision
- External assistance to the Sierra Leone Police coordinated, in particular through regular meetings of the Steering Committee that included the United Kingdom Department for International Development, UNDP and local authorities
- Mentoring provided to all 22 police divisions on 11 themes of local need policing
- Weekly meetings with the Sierra Leone Police to assist on community policing
- 300 officers trained in specialized units of the Criminal Investigation Department (commercial crime), Interpol (family support unit), the Community Relations Department (community policing), the Criminal Intelligence Unit and the Criminal Investigation Department (drugs and narcotics)
- 150 officers trained in the diamond mining policing, cross border security and airport security strategic unit
- The construction of five police stations and 28 barracks facilitated by assessing the needs of the Sierra Leone Police and identifying partners in collaboration with communities
- 100 Sierra Leone Police training instructors qualified

External factors

The subregional security situation will not affect the Sierra Leonean security situation

Qualified and willing police candidates will be available

Table 4
Human resources: Component 3, Civilian police

	Total
I. Civilian police	
Current	150
Proposed	130
Net change	**(20)**

	International staff										
II. Civilian staff	*USG -ASG*	*D-2 -D-1*	*P-5 -P-4*	*P-3 -P-1*	*Field Service*	*General Service*	*Security Service*	*Subtotal*	*National staff[a]*	*United Nations Volunteers*	*Total*
Office of the Police Commissioner											
Current	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	2	10	—	12
Proposed	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	2	10	—	12
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total (I-II)											
Current											162
Proposed											142
Net change											**(20)**

Component 4: Support

Expected accomplishments	*Indicators of achievement*
[4.1] Effective and efficient logistical and administrative support to the mission	[4.1.1] Settlement of payables made within 20 days of receipt of invoices in 2004/05 as compared to 25 days in 2002/03
	[4.1.2] Procurement lead time for locally procured non-complex goods and services reduced to six months in 2004/2005 as compared to nine months in 2003/2004

Outputs

Service improvements

- Regular administrative review of settlement of payments
- Continued monitoring of requisition/tender timeliness and the establishment of an expediting function to follow up on the receipt of orders

Civilian personnel

- 891 civilian contracts administered (335 international staff and 556 national staff) and 147 United Nations Volunteers contracts administered

Military and police personnel

- 9,800 troops, 260 military observers, 130 civilian police emplaced, rotated, repatriated
- 1,342,533 rations supplied to troops in 33 locations

Facilities and infrastructure

- 116 facilities maintained in 30 locations
- 311 generators operated, maintained, repaired and fuelled (1.6 million litres)
- 72 contingent-owned generators fuelled
- 58 water purification systems maintained in 28 locations
- 30 kilometres of road repaired/maintained
- Disposal facilities for solid waste from UNAMSIL premises in Hastings, Freetown and Lungi established and operational
- Two transit camps for the arrival and repatriation of troops and one accommodation camp for staff officers maintained
- 3 asphalting projects completed

Ground transportation

- 768 passenger and heavy/specialized vehicles operated and maintained
- 4 repair and maintenance workshops operated in Mammy Yoko, Hastings, Bo and Kenema
- 1,477 contingent-owned vehicles fuelled

Air transportation

- 1 fixed-wing and 28 rotary-wing aircraft managed for flight operations of 24,360 flight hours, with fuel consumption of 17,706,900 litres
- 176,591 passengers and 8,591 tons of cargo transported 2,462,727 kilometres

Communications

- 23 very small aperture terminal (VSAT) systems at 19 locations supported
- 19 telephone exchanges maintained for 2,100 users
- Maintained 400 mobile high frequency (HF) radios equipped with Global Positioning System vehicle tracking devices

Information technology

- 1,209 desktop and 186 laptop computers, 634 printers and 50 scanners/digital senders in 26 locations supported, maintained and repaired
- Wide area network maintained and repaired with 1,395 users

Medical

- 1 level-I clinic (UNAMSIL headquarters clinic) providing services/consultations to 7,600 patients
- 14 level-I clinics providing services/consultations to 25,200 patients
- 1 level-II clinic providing services/consultations to 1,080 patients
- 1 level-III clinic providing services/consultations to 720 patients
- Voluntary confidential HIV counselling and testing facilities for all personnel
- HIV sensitization programme for all personnel, including peer education

Other supplies, services and equipment

- 4,000 tons of outgoing cargo by air facilitated and processed
- Outgoing sea cargo of 300 containers, 400 United Nations-owned vehicles and 150 pallets facilitated and processed

Security

- 24-hour security provided at 5 premises, 10 installations/facilities and 12 military observer team sites, as well as VIP protection
- Security advisory and briefing provided to all UNAMSIL personnel and official visitors to the Mission
- Investigations conducted into all accidents and incidents involving UNAMSIL personnel and property

External factors

Suppliers of goods and services will be able to deliver as contracted

Table 5
Human resources: Component 4, Support

	International staff										
	USG -ASG	*D-2 -D-1*	*P-5 -P-4*	*P-3 -P-1*	*Field Service*	*General Service*	*Security Service*	*Subtotal*	*National staff*	*United Nations Volunteers*	*Total*
Office of the Division of Administration											
Current	—	2	3	7	—	9	—	21	8	4	33
Proposed	—	2	3	7	—	9	—	21	8	4	33
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Security Coordination Unit											
Current	—	—	1	2	—	—	36	39	20	4	63
Proposed	—	—	1	2	—	—	36	39	20	4	63
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Office of Administrative Services											
Current	—	—	15	25	37	15	—	92	91	28	211
Proposed	—	—	15	25	37	15	—	92	91	28	211
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Office of Integrated Support Services											
Current	—	1	11	12	73	4	—	101	339	86	526
Proposed	—	1	11	12	73	4	—	101	339	86	526
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total											
Current	—	3	30	46	110	28	36	253	458	122	833
Proposed	—	3	30	46	110	28	36	253	458	122	833
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

II. Resource requirements

1. Overall

(Thousands of United States dollars. Budget year is 1 July to 30 June.)

Category	1 July 2003 to 30 June 2004	1 July 2004 to 30 June 2005	1 July 2004 to 30 June 2005	Variance	
	Apportionment (1)	Initial Apportionment (2)	Revised cost estimates (3)	Amount (4)=(3)-(2)	Percentage (5)=(4)÷(2)
Military and police personnel					
Military observers	12 232.5	5 819.3	8 164.6	2 345.3	40.3
Military contingents	295 038.1	102 054.2	130 458.6	28 404.4	27.8
Civilian police	7 003.5	3 278.7	4 805.0	1 526.3	46.6
Formed police units	—	—	—	—	—
Subtotal	**314 274.1**	**111 152.2**	**143 428.2**	**32 276.0**	**29.0**
Civilian personnel					
International staff[a]	38 868.2	29 889.5	43 835.7	13 946.2	46.7
National staff[b]	3 765.0	1 861.1	2 721.8	860.7	46.2
United Nations Volunteers[c]	4 692.1	2 694.7	3 855.6	1 160.9	43.1
Subtotal	**47 325.3**	**34 445.3**	**50 413.1**	**15 967.8**	**46.4**
Operational costs					
General temporary assistance	—	—	—	—	—
Government-provided personnel	—	—	—	—	—
Civilian electoral observers	—	—	—	—	—
Consultants	24.3	25.2	25.2	—	—
Official travel	960.0	513.1	811.3	298.2	58.1
Facilities and infrastructure	44 326.1	15 835.6	21 482.0	5 646.4	35.7
Ground transportation	7 383.3	1 899.1	3 519.3	1 620.2	85.3
Air transportation	63 277.4	17 506.8	49 866.2	32 359.4	184.8
Naval transportation	—	—	—	—	—
Communications	15 304.4	6 132.1	8 648.5	2 516.4	41.0
Information technology	3 233.6	1 600.4	2 187.0	586.6	36.7
Medical	14 954.0	4 502.1	6 579.2	2 077.1	46.1
Special equipment	6 167.8	1 769.3	2 599.8	830.5	46.9
Other supplies, services and equipment	2 583.3	1 483.0	1 775.8	292.8	19.7
Quick-impact projects	240.0	118.0	268.0	150.0	127.1
Subtotal	**158 454.2**	**51 384.7**	**97 762.3**	**46 377.6**	**90.3**
Gross requirements	**520 053.6**	**196 982.2**	**291 603.6**	**94 621.4**	**48.0**
Staff assessment income	5 882.4	4 280.6	6 377.1	2 096.5	49.0
Net requirements	**514 171.2**	**192 701.6**	**285 226.5**	**92 524.9**	**48.0**
Voluntary contributions in kind (budgeted)	—	—	—	—	—
Total requirements	**520 053.6**	**196 982.2**	**291 603.6**	**94 621.4**	**48.0**

[a] Initial and revised cost estimates for 2004/2005 are inclusive of an 8 per cent vacancy rate.
[b] Initial and revised cost estimates for 2004/2005 are inclusive of a 4 per cent vacancy rate.
[c] Initial and revised cost estimates for 2004/2005 are inclusive of a 5 per cent vacancy rate.

2. Contingent-owned equipment: major equipment and self-sustainment

7. Revised requirements for the period from 1 July 2004 to 30 June 2005 are based on standard reimbursement rates for major equipment (wet lease) and self-sustainment in the total amount of $50,777,100, as follows:

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Category	*Initial budget*	*Additional estimates*	*Total revised estimated amounts*
Major equipment	**17 984.5**	**5 579.6**	**23 564.1**
Self-sustainment			
Catering (kitchen facilities)	1 442.7	500.6	1 943.3
Office equipment	1 242.0	431.2	1 673.2
Electrical	1 001.2	70.5	1 071.7
Minor engineering	840.0	292.5	1 132.5
Laundry and cleaning	1 208.0	419.4	1 627.4
Tentage	1 009.2	515.1	1 524.3
Accommodation	1 889.1	454.8	2 343.9
Miscellaneous general stores	2 365.4	820.8	3 186.2
Communications	2 758.4	1 594.6	4 353.0
Medical services	4 176.6	1 581.1	5 757.7
Explosive ordnance disposal	337.2	(337.2)	—
Observation	1 432.1	1 167.7	2 599.8
Identification	0.9	(0.9)	—
Subtotal	**19 702.8**	**7 510.2**	**27 213.0**
Total	**37 687.3**	**13 089.8**	**50 777.1**

3. Non-budgeted contributions

8. The revised estimated value of non-budgeted contributions for the period from 1 July 2004 to 30 June 2005 is as follows:

Category	*Estimated value (Thousands of United States dollars)*
Status of Mission agreement[a]	978.7
Voluntary contributions in kind (non-budgeted)	—
Total	**978.7**

[a] Inclusive of land, buildings and airfield facilities.

III. Analysis of variances[1]

Reference

This section describes the single largest contributing factor of each resource variance according to specific standard options encompassed in the four standard categories listed below:

- **Mandate**: Variances caused by changes in the scale or scope of the mandate, or changes in the expected accomplishments as driven by the mandate
- **External**: Variances caused by parties or situations external to the United Nations
- **Cost parameters**: Variances caused by United Nations regulations, rules and policies
- **Management**: Variances caused by management actions to achieve planned results more effectively (e.g. by reprioritizing or adding certain outputs) or efficiently (e.g. by taking measures to reduce personnel or operational inputs while maintaining the same level of outputs) and/or from performance-related issues (e.g. by having underestimated the costs or quantities of inputs required to produce a certain level of outputs, or by delayed recruitment)

	Variance	
Military observers	$2,345.3	40.3%

- **Mandate: a more gradual downsizing of the Mission**

9. The revised budget is based on an average strength of 174 military observers throughout the 12-month period, as compared to the repatriation of all 260 military observers by December 2004 planned in the initial budget.

	Variance	
Military contingents	$28,404.4	27.8%

- **Mandate: a more gradual downsizing of the Mission**

10. The increased requirements are attributable to the fact that the revised budget provides for an average monthly deployment of 5,627 contingent personnel for the full 12-month period from 1 July 2004 to 30 June 2005, as compared to the initial budget, which was based on an average number of 8,265 contingent personnel for the six-month period from 1 July to 31 December 2004.

[1] Resource variance amounts are expressed in thousands of United States dollars.

	Variance	
Civilian police	$1,526.3	46.6%

- **Mandate: a more gradual downsizing of the Mission**

11. The increased requirements are due to the non-repatriation before 31 March 2005, in accordance with the revised military and policing drawdown plan, of all civilian police, whose repatriation by that date was planned in the initial budget. The revised cost estimate is based on a monthly average of 103 civilian police for the full 12-month financial period, rather than the nine-month average strength of 92 civilian police in the initial budget.

	Variance	
International staff	$13,946.2	46.7%

- **Mandate: a more gradual downsizing of the Mission**

12. As a result of the delayed drawdown and repatriation of military forces and police in UNAMSIL, it is necessary to retain part of the UNAMSIL civilian capacity to ensure that substantive activities can continue to be fully supported. Therefore, the complete withdrawal of international staff by 31 March 2005, which was planned in the initial budget, will now be delayed. The increased requirements are attributable to the fact that the revised estimate is based on a monthly average of 314 international staff for the full 12-month financial period, rather than the nine-month average strength of 282 international staff reflected in the initial budget. The current budget provides for the phased reduction of posts from 335 on 1 July 2004 to 265 by 1 April 2005.

	Variance	
National staff	$860.7	46.2%

- **Mandate: a more gradual downsizing of the Mission**

13. For the same reasons mentioned in paragraph 12 above, the revised staffing for the budget period reflects the retention of posts until June 2005, compared to a complete withdrawal of national staff by 31 March 2005 as planned in the initial budget. The revised deployment reflects the phased reduction of posts from 556 on 1 July 2004 to 486 by 1 April 2005.

	Variance	
United Nations Volunteers	$1,160.9	43.1%

- **Mandate: a more gradual downsizing of the Mission**

14. The proposed increase covers the retention of the United Nations Volunteers until 30 June 2005, compared to a complete withdrawal of United Nations Volunteers by 31 March 2005. The proposed requirement covers costs associated with a 12-month average deployment of 129 United Nations Volunteers, which

represents an increase from the nine-month average strength of 122 United Nations Volunteers in the initial budget.

	Variance	
Official travel	$298.2	58.1%

- **Management: a more gradual downsizing of the Mission**

15. The increased requirement provides resources for 12 months rather than the six-month period included in the initial budget. The increased requirement includes travel for training, political consultation and administrative/technical support areas, as well as the travel of the Director of Administration and the Budget Officer to New York in connection with the Advisory Committee's consideration of this revised budget.

	Variance	
Facilities and infrastructure	$5,646.4	35.7%

- **Mandate: a more gradual downsizing of the Mission**

16. The most significant factor contributing to the variance is higher self-sustainment payments to the troop-contributing countries as a result of the delayed drawdown and repatriation of military personnel.

	Variance	
Ground transportation	$1,620.2	85.3%

- **Mandate: a more gradual downsizing of the Mission**

17. The most significant factor contributing to the variance is higher requirements for petrol, oil and lubricants, and spare parts to maintain the vehicle fleet retained in support of the increased troop, police and civilian strength for a longer period, in line with the delayed drawdown and repatriation of military and civilian personnel.

	Variance	
Air transportation	$32,359.4	184.8%

- **Mandate: a more gradual downsizing of the Mission**

18. The air assets fleet was initially planned to be withdrawn as follows: 11 medium utility helicopters and one heavy utility helicopter in September 2004 and two medium utility, two heavy utility and four attack helicopters in December 2004. It is now proposed to include 28 helicopters for the full 12-month period. The increase in fleet strength will ensure continued mobility for the military component until the end of the mandate.

	Variance	
Communications	$2,516.4	41.0%

- **Mandate: a more gradual downsizing of the Mission**

19. The variance is mainly attributable to anticipated increases in payments to troop-contributing countries for communication self-sustainment provided for additional military contingents for the 12-month period, rather than the six-month period as initially planned.

	Variance	
Information technology	$586.6	36.7%

- **Mandate: a more gradual downsizing of the Mission**

20. The increased requirements provide for acquisition of the new routers, switches and spare parts and supplies which are essential for the maintenance of the LAN and WAN networks and the Mission's information technology equipment for the 12-month period, rather than the nine-month period initially planned.

	Variance	
Medical	$2,077.1	46.1%

- **Mandate: a more gradual downsizing of the Mission**

21. The cost estimates for medical services, medical supplies, medical equipment and troop self-sustainment have been increased in line with the increased numbers of military personnel, civilian police and civilian personnel.

	Variance	
Special equipment	$830.5	46.9%

- **Mandate: a more gradual downsizing of the Mission**

22. The variance is attributable to increased requirements for payments to troop-contributing countries for observation self-sustainment in line with the revised military drawdown plan.

	Variance	
Other supplies, services and equipment	$292.8	19.7%

- **Mandate: a more gradual downsizing of the Mission**

23. The variance is mainly attributable to additional requirements for other services, including ferry services and bank charges, as a result of the continuation of the Mission.

	Variance	
Quick-impact projects	$150.0	127.1%

- **Mandate: a more gradual downsizing of the Mission**

24. The variance relates to 19 quick-impact projects to be undertaken by UNAMSIL troops with the aim of improving the quality of life of local communities, rehabilitating the civilian infrastructure and facilitating the restoration of civil authority in their areas of deployment.

IV. Actions to be taken by the General Assembly

25. **The actions to be taken by the General Assembly in connection with the financing of UNAMSIL are as follows:**

(a) **Appropriation of the amount of $94,621,400 for the maintenance of the Mission for the 12-month period from 1 July 2004 to 30 June 2005, in addition to the amount of $196,982,200 already appropriated by the General Assembly in its resolution 58/308 of 18 June 2004;**

(b) **Assessment of the amount of $94,621,400 at a monthly rate of $10,513,488 for the maintenance of the Mission for the period from 1 October 2004 to 30 June 2005, taking into account the amount of $196,982,200 already assessed on Member States for this period, should the Security Council decide to continue the mandate of the mission.**

V. Summary of follow-up action taken to implement requests and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

Request/recommendation (see A/58/759/Add.3)	*Actions taken to implement recommendation*
The Advisory Committee commends the Mission for the progress it has made in formulating its budget document (A/58/661) using results-based techniques. It is of the opinion, however, that further improvements could be made in a number of areas. Indicators of achievement (for example, 1.1.1 and 1.2.2) should provide measurable parameters that would allow an objective analysis of progress in the implementation of expected accomplishments. Moreover, the distinction between external factors and expected accomplishments appears to be somewhat blurred (see, for example, component 2, Military) (para. 15).	The comments of the Committee have been noted and reflected accordingly in the revised budget.

Request/recommendation (see A/58/759/Add 3)	*Actions taken to implement recommendation*
The Advisory Committee is of the view that the feasibility of developing internal expertise in the area of waste disposal and management should be explored in order to minimize environmental protection costs during the liquidation period of United Nations peacekeeping operations. The Committee trusts that the Organization, in developing such expertise, will endeavour to learn from individual experts in environmental protection who are now occasionally hired in peacekeeping operations as consultants, as well as from expertise that may be available at the United Nations Environment Programme or other United Nations programmes, funds and agencies (para. 30).	The Department of Peacekeeping Operations, in consultation with the United Nations Environment Programme, is developing a policy and guidelines for environmental protection. The policy and related guidelines will be published at the end of 2004.
The Advisory Committee is of the view that not all elements of the proposed training programme appear to take full account of the downsizing and subsequent liquidation of the Mission. For example, as indicated in the supplementary information provided to the Committee, 38 staff members of the Civil Affairs Office would be trained in communication skills, public relations and reporting to improve their productivity and quality of service and to enhance their professional skills for future mission activities. However, the proposed staffing structure of the Civil Affairs Office for the period 2004/05 provides for a maximum strength of 31 staff, including 10 national staff and 8 United Nations Volunteers (see A/58/661, table 2) (para. 34).	The number of training programmes have been adjusted in line with the comments of the Committee. As regards the number of Civil Affairs Officers to be trained, it should be noted that this is an in-house training, which is to be led by the Civil Affairs Office, but was originally envisaged to draw staff from other sections of the substantive component, such as the Political Affairs, Public Information, Policy Planning and Human Rights sections, that require communication, public relations and reporting skills. Upon further review, the training will now be exclusively limited to Civil Affairs Officers.
The Committee stresses the need to keep the number of staff selected for training in proportion to the tasks to be implemented by the Mission and to its specific needs. The Organization invests considerable resources in training; the Committee trusts that upon liquidation, the skills acquired by staff will not be lost and will, where possible, be made available to other missions (para. 35).	The comments of the Committee have been noted and implemented accordingly. In order to maximize the benefit of training, personnel who attend training outside the mission are required to train relevant staff upon return. UNAMSIL has also released staff, on an as-needed basis, to assist and train staff in other missions, which serves to widen the Organization's skills base.

Request/recommendation (see A/58/759/Add.3)	*Actions taken to implement recommendation*
The Advisory Committee recalls that in its previous report on UNAMSIL it commented on the fact that the United Nations pays dual tentage and accommodation rates to contingents deployed to UNAMSIL when they remain in tents after the first six months of deployment, and pointed out that local contractors and locally available materials should be taken into account when considering the cost of hard-wall accommodation (see A/57/772/Add.3, para. 34). In response to the Committee's observation, the Secretary-General indicated in section V.A of his report (A/58/661) that "a survey of the local market in UNAMSIL (especially in remote areas in the sectors where the troops are accommodated) did not indicate availability of enough building construction materials and local contractors for erection and production of local hard-wall accommodation. In addition, the troops were required to be mobile, and thus, the tentage accommodation was the most suitable for this purpose" (para. 37).	Troops stay beyond six months in tentage accommodation for operational reasons as opposed to financial considerations. Operational necessity frequently dictates the relocation of troops, at the company and platoon level, from one location to another and therefore hard-wall accommodation would not be a practical option.
The Advisory Committee is concerned that no progress has been made by the administration of UNAMSIL in improving the living accommodation for troops. In view of the downsizing and eventual liquidation of the Mission, the issue of constructing hard-wall accommodation is becoming moot. However, the principle underlying the requirement that troops not remain in tents beyond six months should not be violated just for financial reasons. Further comments of the Committee on this issue are contained in its general report on the administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of peacekeeping operations (A/58/759) (para. 38).	However, hard-wall accommodation has always been provided to battalion headquarter sites where frequent shifting of location is not expected. In UNAMSIL over 69 per cent of the troops are living in hard-wall, United Nations-provided accommodation, while 31 per cent are living in tentage due to operational necessity.

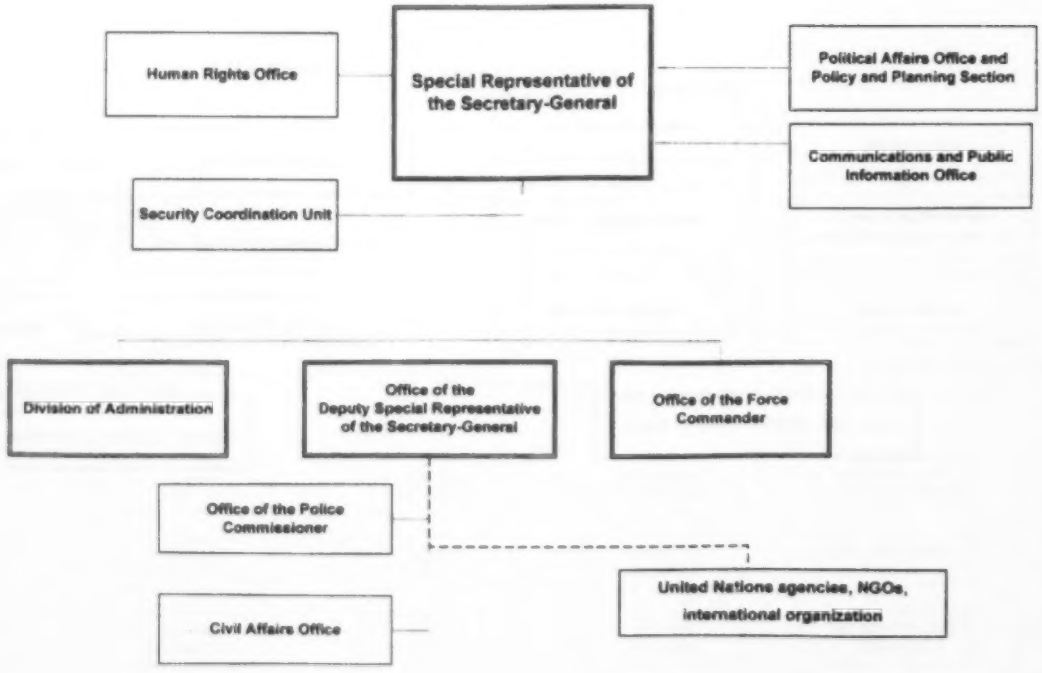
Request/recommendation (see A/58/759/Add.3)	*Actions taken to implement recommendation*
The Advisory Committee notes from the report of the Board of Auditors on the accounts of the United Nations peacekeeping operations closed on 30 June 2003 that the value of UNAMSIL property pending write-off and disposal as at 30 June 2002 amounted to $1,603,225, of which the Mission was able to write off $1,244,479 as at 30 June 2003; moreover, the value of UNAMSIL property pending write-off and disposal as at 30 June 2003 amounted to $2,956,422. Thus, the value of property pending write-off and disposal at UNAMSIL has increased in one year by 84 per cent, which suggests, in the view of the Committee, that property write-off is not proceeding as can be expected, especially at the downsizing stage of the Mission. The Committee was informed that due to deficiencies associated with the field assets control system, there is not yet a reliable basis for inventory management. The Committee expects that increased attention will be paid to the write-off and disposal process at UNAMSIL, to be undertaken in full compliance with the financial rules and procedures of the Organization (para. 45).	A thorough review of the asset write-off and disposal process was conducted with a view to accelerating the process. The outcome of the review led to the formation of an Asset Disposal Group, which brings together asset managers as well as staff of the Property Control Inventory Unit, the Procurement Section and the Finance Section. It convenes once every week to deliberate on and resolve outstanding issues related to asset write-offs and disposal. The meeting is co-chaired by the Chief of Integrated Support Services and the Chief of Administrative Services. The Mission has established an Asset Disposal and Environmental Protection Unit, which is responsible for the implementation of the Local Property Survey Board and Headquarters Property Survey Board recommendations in full compliance with the Organization's financial rules and procedures, as well as for ensuring the application of internationally approved environmentally friendly methods for hazardous components of assets to be disposed of locally. Following the steps taken by the Mission regarding the write-off and disposal of assets, the Mission's assets pending write-offs have been brought down to 252 items as at April 2004, with acquisition value of US$ 0.587 million.
The Advisory Committee also expects that since the new system of assets management, Galileo, is being introduced in peacekeeping operations, UNAMSIL will improve its inventory control practices. In this connection, the Committee recalls that in paragraph 29 of its previous report on UNAMSIL (A/57/772/Add.3), it pointed out that in several instances property and inventory management required significant improvement (para. 46).	It is expected that the improved capabilities and enhanced flexibility of the Galileo system will improve property and inventory management in the Mission, upon its implementation in the near future.

Request/recommendation (see A/58/759/Add.3)	*Actions taken to implement recommendation*
The Advisory Committee also recalls that the Board of Auditors noted that the procurement lead times were lengthy at some missions, including UNAMSIL (see A/58/5, vol. II, chap. II, para. 175). The Committee was informed, upon enquiry, that the Procurement Section of the Mission has taken the necessary measures to minimize delays in the procurement process, including (a) monitoring requisition and tender timeliness, (b) establishing an expediting function to follow up on the receipt of orders, (c) improving the description of product and service specifications and (d) improving the selection of prospective suppliers. The Committee notes that the budget document does not identify separately outputs related to procurement. The Committee requests that outputs related to procurement activity be clearly identified and reflected in future budgets of peacekeeping operations. Moreover, the procurement lead time should be included among indicators of achievement for support services (para. 47).	The comment of the Committee has been noted and reflected accordingly in the revised budget, under the support component.

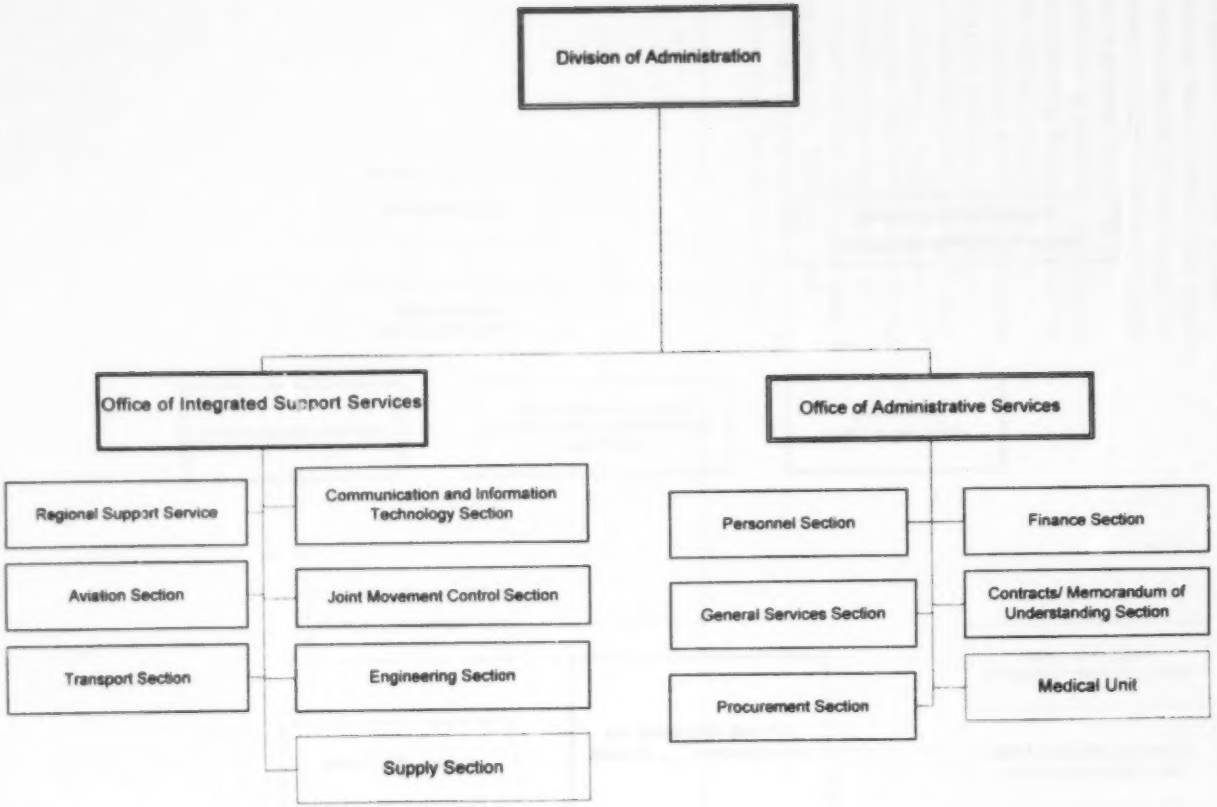
Annex

Organization charts

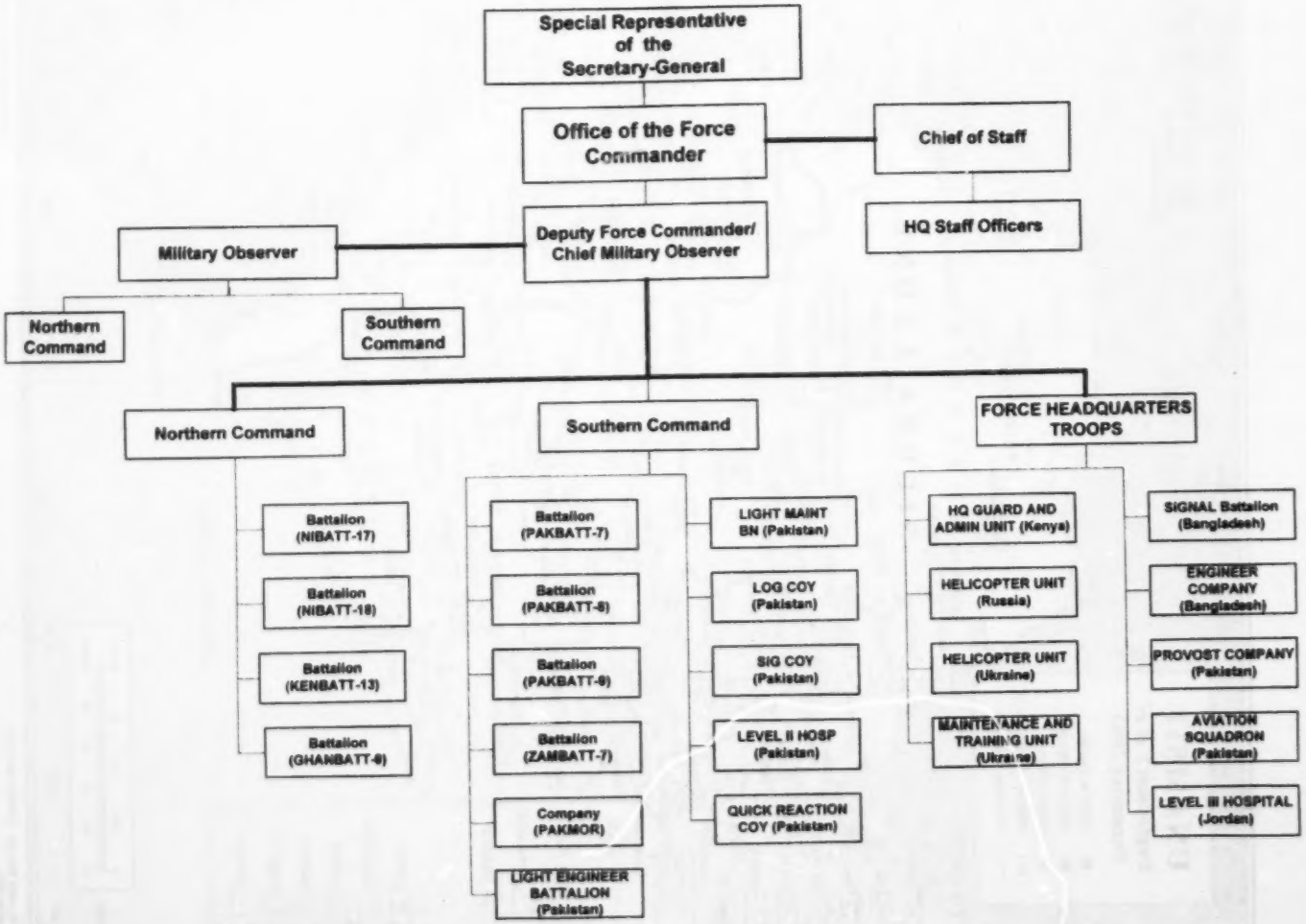
A. Overall organization of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone


Human Rights Office
Special Representative of the Secretary-General
Political Affairs Office and Policy and Planning Section
Communications and Public Information Office
Security Coordination Unit
Division of Administration
Office of the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General
Office of the Force Commander
Office of the Police Commissioner
United Nations agencies, NGOs, international organization
Civil Affairs Office

B. Division of Administration



C. Military component



UNAMSIL
Deployment as of
December 2003
National capital
Provincial capital
Town, village
International boundary
Provincial boundary
GUINEA
NORTHERN
SIERRA LEONE
EASTERN
SOUTHERN
LIBERIA
ATLANTIC OCEAN
Freetown
Kabala
Kailahun
Kenema
Bo
Pujehun
Zimmi
Sulima
Robertsport
Map No. 4130 Rev. 35 UNITED NATIONS
December 2003
Department of Public Information
Cartographic Section